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Contents

TOPICS OF THE DAY:

Violence at the Mines 399
The Tariff Commission Proposed by the President 400
Trust and Tariff Caricatures . . . 400-1
Our Marines on the Isthmus 402
Tariff Sentiment in Iowa 402
Cartoon Echoes of the Henderson Letter 403
Mr. Platt's Political Grip 403
England and Venezuela Again 404
A "Home Rule" Tax Movement in Colorado 405
Topics in Brief 405

LETTERS AND ART:

American Books Read Abroad 406
New Plays by Pinero and Benson . . 406
Revival of a Lost Art 407
A Churchman's Indictment of Modern Fiction 408
Verdaguer, the Persecuted Poet of Spain 409
Contradictions of Literary Criticism . . 410

SCIENCE AND INVENTION:

What is Electricity? 411
Household Gymnastics 411
How to Use Soft Coal 412
Another Theory of Sex 412
Electrical Waves and the Human Brain 413
An Electrical Rat-Trap 413
Electric Production of Sleep 414
Speed Trial of the "Arrow" 414
Temperature of Insects 414
Science Brevities 414

THE RELIGIOUS WORLD:

Forty Million Dollars for Religion . . 415
Portraits: Editors of Religious Periodicals.—XIV. 415
A Christian Lobbyist 415
A Buddhist Hymnal 416
Portraits: New Papal Representatives . 417
Christian Writers on the Jewish Problem 417
A Plea for Pulpit Sensationalism . . . 418

FOREIGN TOPICS:

Assaults upon the "Open Door" . . . 419
The Extinction of Finland 419
An Alliance of France and Spain . . . 420
The Constitutional and Political Crisis in Australia 421
The German General Election 422
Points of View 422

NOTABLE BOOKS OF THE DAY:

The Pretty Story Versus the Painful . 423
Gilbert Parker's Tales of Egypt . . . 423
"A Specialist in Souls" 423
The Idealized Cowboy 424
The Popular Novel of Day Before Yesterday 424
A Harvard-Oxford Man 424

MISCELLANEOUS:

Books Received 426
Current Poetry 427
Personals 429
More or Less Pungent 432
Coming Events 433
Current Events 434
Chess 436

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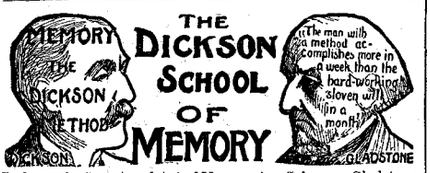

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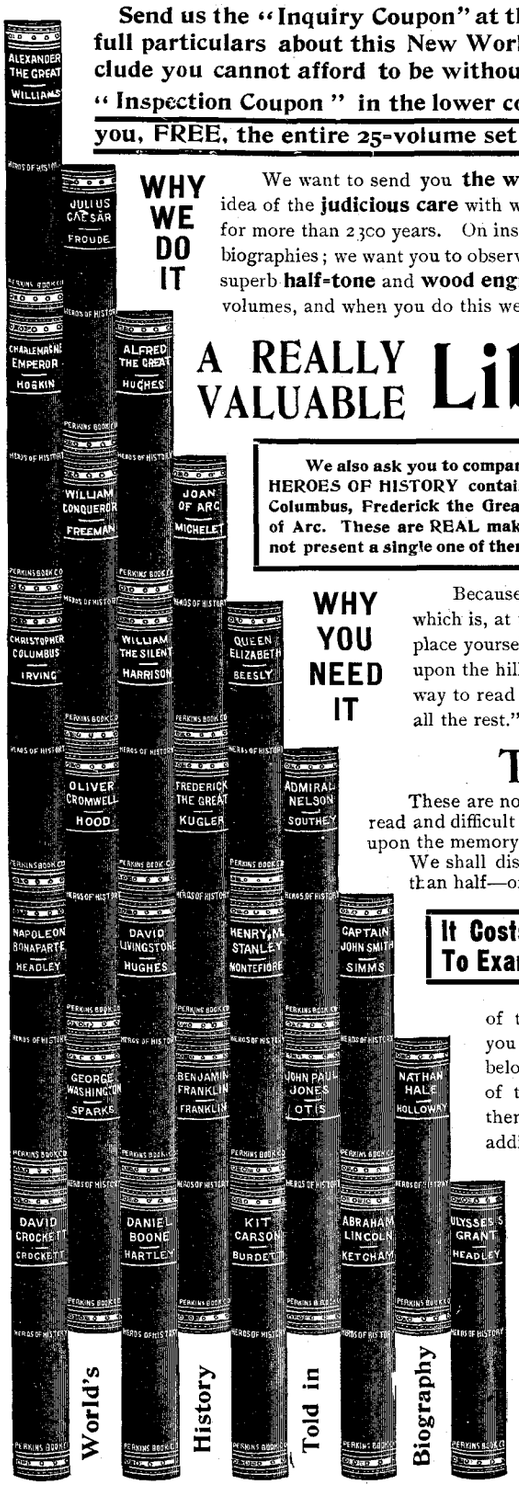

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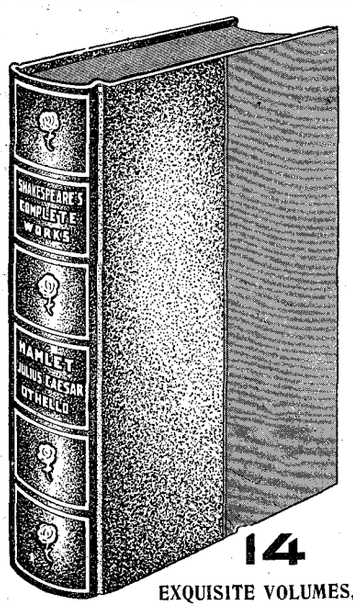

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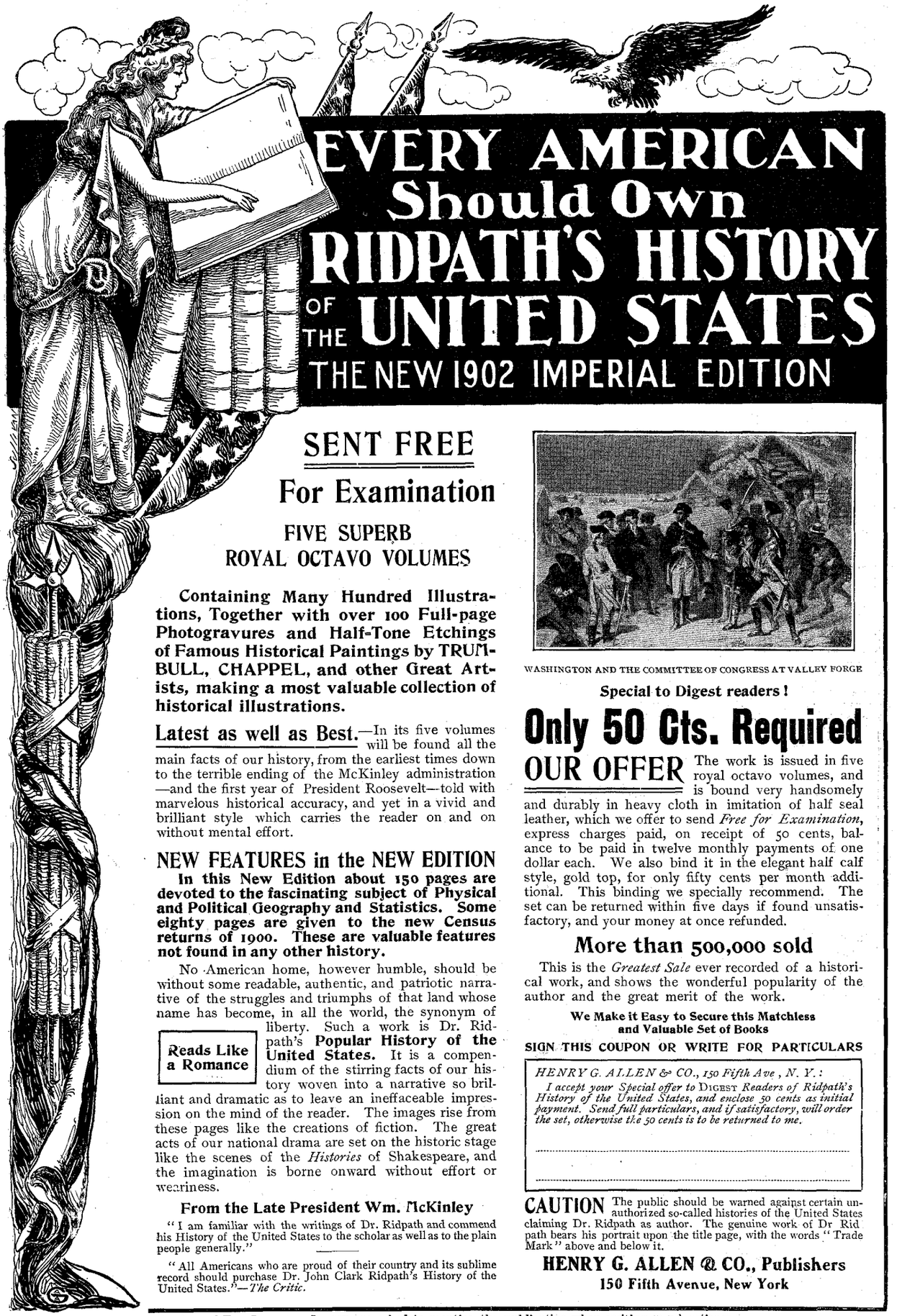

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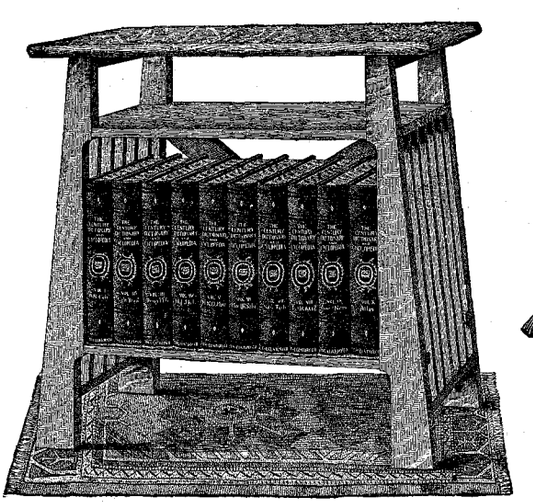

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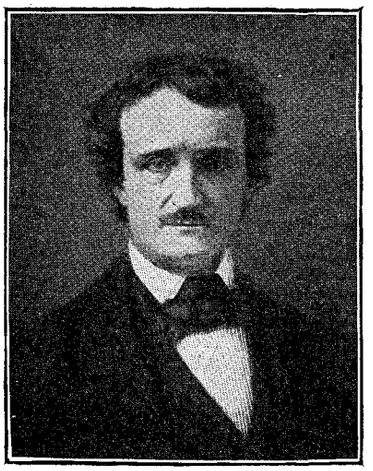

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The Literary Digest

VOL. XXV., NO. 14 NEW YORK, OCTOBER 4, 1902. WHOLE NUMBER, 650

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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

VIOLENCE AT THE MINES.

"IT is not a coal strike, but an insurrection," exclaims the New York *Journal of Commerce*, commenting upon the daily reports of intimidation, assault, dynamiting of houses and mine property, destruction of bridges, and assassination in the hard-coal fields. State militia are now on duty in seven of the ten anthracite counties, but the disorder continues in the very regions where the soldiers are on guard, and the Harrisburg *Telegraph*, which is "on the spot," reports that "the indications now are that the labor riot records will be broken this year." The conditions that prevail mean "little less than a reign of terror," declares the Baltimore *American*, and the New York *Evening Post* says the riot record "is a shame and disgrace to any State pretending to civilization," and "is all the blacker because the victims are guilty of no other crime than a desire to labor honestly."

"Stern measures of repression" are demanded by *The Post*, which has not at any time sympathized with the strike, and the New York *Sun*, which has taken a similar stand, declares that Mr. Mitchell "must either stop the murdering, the dynamiting, and the interference with would-be laborers in which his followers are now engaged, or he must withdraw his countenance from them by calling the strike off." And it is noteworthy that the Philadelphia *North American*, one of the foremost papers in the country in its sympathy with the strikers, takes much the same view. It says:

"If the strikers themselves do not make every possible effort to repress the lawlessness which has developed suddenly in hitherto reasonably peaceable districts, they will forfeit the support which has been given to them and may look upon the four months which they have spent in idleness as time worse than wasted.

"The coal combine's whole plan of campaign has been to lure the strikers into conflict with the State, and thus obscure the original issue and substitute for questions of work and wages the obligation of organized society to protect all its members in the exercise of guaranteed rights. The coal trust could not defeat the miners in open battle on the ground chosen by them. Its only chance of success lay in maneuvring the strikers out of position and then hurling against them the military forces of the State. In a defensive position organized labor may be invulnerable. When it assumes the offensive and abandons the entrenchments of public sympathy, it resolves itself into a disorderly mob and rushes against the disciplined forces of social order to certain defeat.

"It is useless to discuss the methods by which the coal trust has inveigled the miners into a false position, or to seek excuses for the folly of mobs of exasperated strikers. Society simply can not and will not tolerate riot, arson, and murder. Men who resort to force in the settlement of their quarrels outlaw themselves and invite destruction when society is stronger than they. The State of Pennsylvania is stronger than the rioting miners, and its strength will be used to crush them if they do not yield instant obedience to the law.

"If President Mitchell and his associates can not hold their forces in hand, they must not expect to win the fight. Of course, it is difficult to keep 150,000 men under control, but the difficulty was taken into account, or should have been, when the United Mine Workers decided to strike. If the leaders have found the task undertaken by them to be impossible, there is but one course open to them, and they know well what that is.

"The strike leaders can not fool with the situation as it exists to-day. Their position is a difficult one, and they have the sympathy of those who have tried to assist them in obtaining justice for the mine workers; but they can not expect, and we believe do not ask, for public support of a strike that threatens to degenerate into a murderous riot."

The Scranton *Tribune*, published in the heart of the strike region, gives the following interesting information and advice:

"To the credit of the mine workers it should be said that the proportion of their number given to mob violence and disregard of public rights is a small one. The great majority of the English-speaking miners of our county are as peaceable and law-abiding men as can be found in any community. Many of them own homes and are giving their children the benefits of a good education. A goodly number of them are active in church and benevolent works, teachers in Sunday-schools, and useful members of society in whatever relations they may engage. It is not to be believed of these men that they favor intimidation of other men or the use of mob force in violation of law. We know them better than to believe this. Their neighbors know them better. Only those persons who live at a distance from the coal-fields are liable to misunderstand the situation and draw wrong conclusions.

"The honest and conservative element among the mine workers has suffered in patience long enough under the deprivation and public misconstruction put upon them by the lawless element. During this strike, to which they were originally opposed, they have gone quietly about their business, keeping away from centers of agitation and possible disturbance and philosophically waiting for the clouds to roll by. And now the restless ones have gone mad in their lawless instincts, the sheriff has been forced to ask for and the governor to send troops into Lackawanna county, the first in a quarter of a century; and the effect of all this must recoil disastrously on the strikers' cause.

"Is it not time that the latent character and manhood of the reputable miners were asserted to put an end to this intolerable situation? There is character enough and manhood enough in plenty among the men enlisted in this strike to put lawlessness down if it shall assert itself. Let it be understood in no uncertain terms that the real enemy of the miners is not the poor non-union man driven to work by the necessities of his family and exercising in his choice of work a right guaranteed to him by the law of God and man, but the anarchist who seizes upon occasions of this kind to disturb public order and terrorize the community, or the loafer, ever ready to egg on mischief and deviltry. The leaders among the strikers have uttered wise

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words of condemnation of lawlessness, but something more than words are required to keep these disorderly influences down. The leaders are powerless without the prompt and thorough cooperation of their followers, and especially of followers who stand for something, who are men of reputation and influence."

THE TARIFF COMMISSION PROPOSED BY THE PRESIDENT.

THE most contradictory opinions are heard in regard to the President's suggestion of a tariff commission that will take the tariff issue out of party politics. "What we really need in this country is to treat the tariff as a business proposition and not from the standpoint of the temporary needs of any political

STILL ANOTHER ACCIDENT POSSIBLE.

"President Roosevelt's tours have been marked by accidents and narrow escapes" (News item). —*The Chicago News.*

party," he declared in his speech at Logansport, Ind., on the day that his Western tour was cut short by a slight surgical operation. He said further:

"A nation like ours can adjust its business after a fashion to any kind of a tariff. But neither our nation nor any other can stand the ruinous policy of readjusting its business to radical changes in the tariff at short intervals. This is more true now that it ever was before, for, owing to the immense extent and variety of our products, the tariff schedules of to-day carry rates of duty on more than 4,000 articles.

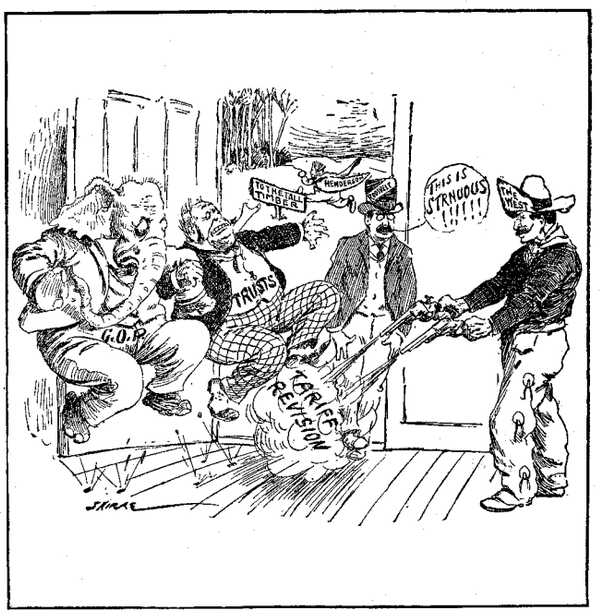
"Continual sweeping changes in such a tariff, touching so intimately the commercial interests of the nation, which stands as one of the two or three greatest in the whole industrial world, can not but be disastrous. Yet, on the other hand, where the industrial needs of the nation shift as rapidly as they do with us, it is a matter of prime importance that we should be able to readjust our economic policy as rapidly as possible and with as little friction as possible to these needs.

"We need a scheme which will enable us to provide a reapplication of the principle to the changed conditions. The problem therefore is to devise some plan by which these shifting needs can be recognized and the necessary readjustment of duties provided without forcing the entire business community, and therefore the entire nation, to submit to a violent surgical operation, the mere threat of which, and still more the accomplished fact of which, would probably paralyze for a considerable time all the industries of the country. . . . . .

"We need to devise some machinery by which, while persevering in the policy of a protective tariff in which I think the nation as a whole has now generally acquiesced, we would be able to correct the irregularities and remove the incongruities produced by the changing conditions without destroying the whole structure. Such machinery would permit us to continue our definitely settled tariff policy while providing for the changes in duties upon particular schedules which must inevitably and necessarily take place from time to time as matters of legislative and administrative detail.

"This would secure the needed stability of economic policy, which is a prime factor in our industrial success, while doing away with any tendency to fossilization. It would recognize the fact that as our needs shift it may be found advisable to alter rates and schedules, adapting them to the changed conditions and necessities of the whole people, and this would be in no wise incompatible with preserving the principle of protection, for belief in the wisdom of protective tariff is in no way inconsistent with frankly admitting the desirability of changing a set of schedules when from any cause such change is in the interests of the nation as a whole—and our tariff policy is designed to favor the interests of the nation as a whole and not those of any particular set of individuals, save as an incident to their building up of national well-being. There are two or three different methods by which it will be possible to provide such readjustment without any shock to the business world.

"My personal preference would be for action which should be taken only after preliminary inquiry by and upon the findings of a body of experts of such high character and ability that they could be trusted to deal with the subject purely from the standpoint of our business and industrial needs, but of course Congress would have to determine for itself the exact method to be followed. The Executive has at its command the means for gathering most of the necessary data and can act whenever it is



THE WEST: "Now then, dance!" —*The Pittsburg Post.*

the desire of Congress that it should act. That is the machinery for turning out the policy above outlined, I am very certain, if only our people will make up their minds that the health of the community will be subserved by treating the whole question primarily from the standpoint of the business interests of the entire country, rather than from the standpoint of the fancied interests of any group of politicians."

The President did not say explicitly that he favors any change in the tariff at this time, and he did not make it clear whether he has in mind anything beyond a merely advisory commission. An advisory commission was tried under President Arthur's administration, twenty years ago. Its advice was generally disregarded by Congress, and its example is not considered a very inspiring one. As regards a commission with the power to fix rates, some object that Congress can not constitutionally delegate such powers to a commission; others think that it would not if it could.

But a large section of the press are inclined to adopt the Presi-

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dent's suggestion. The commission plan "is at once the only scientific and the only just method of treating the question," declares the New York *Commercial Advertiser* (Rep.), and the Pittsburg *Dispatch* (Ind. Rep.) calls his argument "convincing and practically irrefutable." His ideas are, in fact, "so clear, so sane, and so forceful," says the Chicago *Journal* (Ind.), "that we have no doubt they will meet with the approval of the vast majority of the American people." The Baltimore *American* (Ind.) "can conceive of nothing more beneficial to the business and industrial world," for the plan "would result in effective tariff revision without any of the deleterious consequences of a public and legislative agitation of the subject." "Democrats and Republicans alike should unite" on this proposition, suggests the Brooklyn *Times* (Rep.), and the Boston *Journal* (Rep.) says:

PARTY MANAGER: "Pound him as much as you please, Mr. President, only don't take his bone away from him." —*The Philadelphia Ledger.*

"If the tariff were taken out of politics, as it ought to be, tariff revision would have no terrors for American business. The matter would adjust itself almost automatically. A competent tariff commission, in which the country had confidence, could give each industry just the protection which it needed and no more. That would be scientific protectionism. But for the blind Bourbonism of the small and shrinking free-trade minority in this country, we might have that scientific method now. President Roosevelt's Logansport speech, with its powerful statement of the protectionist case, is a long step forward toward this desired consummation."

Turning now to the President's critics, one finds a flood of arguments against the plan. "Plausible, but impracticable," is the verdict of the New York *Journal of Commerce* upon it. It is "as unpromising as anything that could be devised," thinks the Chicago *Chronicle* (Dem.), and the Philadelphia *Inquirer* (Rep.) remarks that it "is what the late Senator Ingalls might have called 'an iridescent dream.'" Mr. Roosevelt "means well," says the Boston *Herald* (Ind.), and the Springfield *Republican* (Ind.) adds extenuatingly that he is evidently "one unacquainted with the subject." The New York *Tribune* (Rep.) surmises that Congress might not be willing to surrender its power to a commission, and the Philadelphia *Press* (Rep.) remarks that "the misfortune is that so long as one party stands for a radical and sweeping change of the tariff, the business question is necessarily made an issue of politics, and party success becomes identified with business security." The New York *Sun* (Rep.) puts its argument in a nutshell in the following paragraph:

"The Constitution of the United States provides for a board to settle the tariff question, and constitutionally there can be no other appointed. It is the Congress of the United States, and the adjustment of tariff schedules can only be taken out of politics when the Congress is taken out of politics. It is as easy to take out of politics the trust question or the Philippine question or any other question on which political parties divide, as it is to carry out this plan of getting rid of political disagreement on the tariff schedules."

The Washington *Post* (Ind.) observes similarly:

"It is impossible by any human device to take the tariff out of politics without changing our Government from republic to absolute monarchy. The tariff and all other business matters with which Congress deals were put into politics when the foundations of the republic were laid, and they will stay there. The fact that the tariff affects all the people in their business and domestic affairs, instead of being a reason why it should be taken out of politics, is the very reason why it can not be taken out. . . . . .

"The country has had too many commissions of various kinds, and too much money has been wasted in that way. It were far better for both the legislative and executive departments to do the work assigned to them by the Constitution than to attempt to farm it out. And as our Government is, and its very nature must continue to be, a government by party, it must always be impossible to get national taxation out of politics."

The whole scheme "is simply an expedient of delay," declares the Hartford *Times* (Ind. Dem.), and the Richmond *Dispatch* (Dem.) agrees that it "simply looks to procrastination." *The Dispatch* continues:

THE PRESIDENT'S IDEA AS TO TARIFF REVISION AND TRUSTS. —*The Cleveland Leader.*

"In this respect the proposition is on all-fours with the President's scheme to reach the trusts through a constitutional amendment. It is a play to put the settlement of the issue in the distant future; to avoid meeting it squarely; to distract the attention of the public from the vital present. . . . . .

"When we analyze it we can see nothing in the President's tariff-reform scheme but a 'time-gainer' for the protected interests. For the people to accept and allow themselves to be beguiled by his view would be to surrender the weapon upon which they must chiefly depend in fighting for emancipation from the trust burden. That weapon is popular education on the issue. It would be to put off the day of deliverance indefinitely, with the prospect that in the mean time the power of deliverance at all would grow weaker and weaker.

"No. The struggle for tariff reform—the struggle to overthrow the trust tyranny—is not a thing to be commenced at some

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undefined period in the future. It is a thing to be started now while the people all over the country are awakening to what it involves, and continued vigorously and unrelentingly until there is a change in the Government which will insure revision. And now, and in the future as in the past, the field of the struggle must be the open field of politics. It would be absurd for the masses to look elsewhere than to the Democratic party for leaders in the fight, or hope for reform, save through Democratic domination of all departments of the Government."

OUR MARINES ON THE ISTHMUS.

AN instance of United States interference with South American broils is afforded by the presence of our marines on the Isthmus of Panama, where they are guarding the isthmian railroad. The revolutionists and the government troops are not allowed to fight on the line of the road, and if the soldiers want to ride, they have to go as passengers, with their guns carried separately as freight. Last spring a battle near the railroad was suspended to let a train pass. Nearly two thousand United States bluejackets, under Commander McLean, are on the spot, the largest force we have had there in many years, and a Caribbean naval division has been established, under the control of Rear-Admiral Coghlan.

HIS FIRST WORK ON THE CANAL.
—*The New York Herald.*

The preservation of order along the isthmian railroad is provided for by treaty with Colombia, but the Washington correspondent of the New York *Herald* says that the increase of our force there "is significant of the fact that a great change is coming over the relations between the United States and South American countries," and so thinks the Chicago *Tribune*, which observes:

"The number of Americans with rights in South American countries is increasing. It will increase faster when their attention is turned southward by the building of the isthmian canal. Then the McLean precedent will be recalled. From forbidding men to fight on a railroad track it is only a short step to forbidding them to fight within so many miles of that track, and then within the territory commercially tributary to the railroad. It is time for Latin-Americans to think of the advantages of settling their difficulties without small-bore rifles. It is cheaper for them and will be more profitable for the American exporters. If the former reason does not appeal to them, they should consider the latter."

The Columbus *Dispatch* remarks:

"It is a most ticklish task that Commander McLean has in the protection of the railway transit across the Isthmus of Panama. He is under instruction to keep the line of traffic open, and has authority, in an emergency, to go to almost any length to preserve the railway property and prevent the route from being used as a theater of war. He has discretion, under his orders, to allow or not to allow troops to be conveyed from one end of the road to the other, and in the exercise of that discretion he has, he reports to-day, allowed Colombian government troops to go over the road as passengers, their arms being sent as other freight.

"Ordinarily this would be humiliating to another Government situated as that of Colombia is, but the latter recognizes the right of the United States to protect the isthmian traffic—a right exercised jointly by the Colombian and United States governments—and is doubtless glad to be able to move its troops in any manner whatever by the railroad. As for the revolutionists, they get no such favors as this, and are warned not to attack any train or otherwise embarrass traffic. And there's justice in this, too, for the reason that the revolutionists are not recognized as belligerents. They are forced by their very situation to get along as they can and to be content with the precautions that the United States representative is taking to prevent actual hostilities on the line. It is fine discrimination, but it has good reason at bottom, and neither party can logically complain. If there is hot-headed action on either side—a refusal on the part of the government troops to abide by the regulations which have been set, or by the revolutionists to see the justice of the discrimination—the United States will doubtless take possession of the railroad and drive both combatants into the interior. Happily, however, that necessity has not yet arisen."

TARIFF SENTIMENT IN IOWA.

SPEAKER HENDERSON caused as much astonishment by his report on free-trade sentiment in Iowa as he did by his retirement from Congress (considered in these columns last week). He declared that "there is no little sentiment and a growing sentiment among Republicans" in Iowa that trust evils "can be cured or the people benefited by free trade, in whole or in part." If the Speaker's estimate of the situation in that "rock-ribbed" Republican State is correct, it is remarked that the Republican outlook in the country at large may not be so rosy as some suppose it to be. Mr. Henderson's estimate is confirmed by Governor Cummins, of Iowa, who recently stated, in an interview, that it is "practically the unanimous sentiment of the Republican voters" of his State that "the time has come for certain changes in the tariff." A number of Iowa papers convey the same idea. The Speaker "knew before he was nominated," says the Hampton *Recorder* (Rep.), "that many of the Republicans of his district disagree with him on the tariff." And the third district "is a gage of Iowa sentiment," reports the Sioux City *Tribune* (Ind.), which adds that "this judgment is based on some knowledge of conditions in all parts of the State, and on expression of a great number of men whose business, as politicians, it is to understand sentiment in their sections." The Spirit Lake *Beacon* (Rep.) declares:

"For taking the position that protection shall not be prostituted to selfish ends, and that Republican teachings shall be justified in the withdrawal of the tariff from world-conquering industries, Iowa Republicans apologize to none. Here they have deliberately established themselves, and here they will stand as leaders come and leaders go. What is known as the 'Iowa idea' had its inception at the Iowa fireside. It has given Iowa significant prominence. It has given to the Democracy the deadliest blow that could have been delivered. It is a Republican rallying-point so inspiring and so influential as to give substantial assurance of Republican national supremacy far into the future. If it has really driven from public life the speaker of the national House of Representatives, in the fact is found additional proof that ideas issuing from popular thoughtfulness, popular judgment, and popular conscience are immeasurably greater than any man."

On the other hand, however, evidence is found in many Iowa papers that the tariff-revision sentiment there is not serious enough to rend the party or endanger its success. The very convention, held last week, that nominated a successor for Mr. Henderson's seat in Congress declares in its platform that "we

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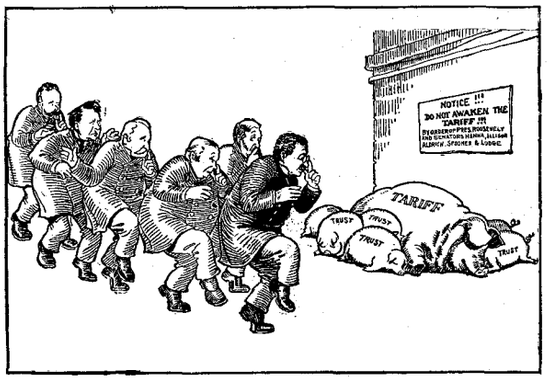
deny that the Dingley tariff breeds and shelters trusts," and the Burlington *Hawk-Eye*, one of the most influential Republican papers in Iowa, takes the same stand. The Waterloo *Reporter* (Rep.), published in the third district, denies flatly that the Republicans there are for "free trade, in whole or in part," as Mr. Henderson charges, and the Des Moines *Register and Leader* (Rep.) believes that Mr. Henderson "has attached undue importance to superficial differences." So, too, think the Council Bluffs' *Nonpareil* (Rep.) and the Webster City *Freeman-Tribune* (Rep.). Says the Rockford *Register* (Rep.): "Trusts or no trusts, tariff or no tariff, no sane man but would prefer to put up with the ills of prosperity rather than with the ills of adversity. No more of tariff morality of '92–'96 for us. Better a Morgan, a Carnegie, and a Rockefeller than to have decent work-people slinking down back-alleys for a mess of free soup." The Eldora *Herald* (Rep.) and many other Republican papers suspect that the reason given by Mr. Henderson for his retirement was not the true one, and some of them think he saw defeat ahead and wished to avoid it. The Marshalltown *Times-Republican* (Rep.), which has been investigating the matter, says:

"Since the withdrawal evidences have arisen on all sides to indicate that the Republicans in the very counties which were vitally necessary to his success because of their Republican majorities were going to quietly knife him. Their only grievance was that they were tired of Henderson because he assumed to know more than everybody else. It is to the latter's credit that he should be the first man to discover the situation."

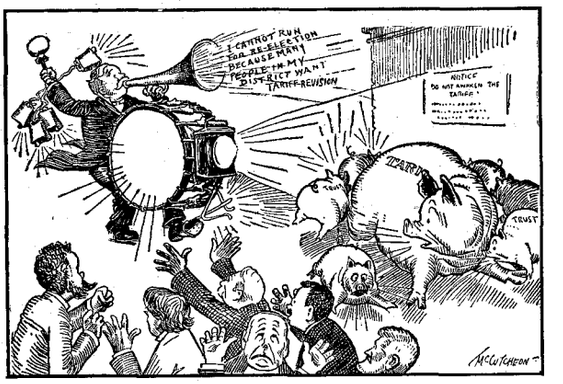
MR. PLATT'S POLITICAL GRIP.

HAS he lost it? That is a question that is being discussed by the papers all over the country, as a result of the events at the New York State Republican convention at Saratoga. Mr. Platt and the Democratic papers, for diverse reasons, maintain that his power is unbroken; but a good many independent papers regale their readers with political obituaries of the New York Senator. The Republican papers have little or nothing to say on the subject. If Mr. Platt can be taken as an authority on his own political demise, the funeral may as well be indefinitely postponed. He says, in a newspaper interview: "I am very sorry to disappoint those deeply interested friends of mine who have retired me from politics. They are so earnest about it that it seems too bad to disobey them. But if they will come around they will find that I am still doing business at the old stand." The New York *Journal* (Dem.) agrees. Senator Platt has been deposed half a dozen times in the last half a dozen years, it recalls, by Black, Roosevelt, Odell, and others, only to reappear at the head of the state machine, as much the "easy boss" as ever. And it regards this merely as one more instance.

The Saratoga incident was the revision of Mr. Platt's slate at the demand of Governor Odell. Mr. Platt had previously experienced an apparent change of mind in regard to the indorsement of the President for another term (considered in these columns last week), and it is said that he was also influenced to put

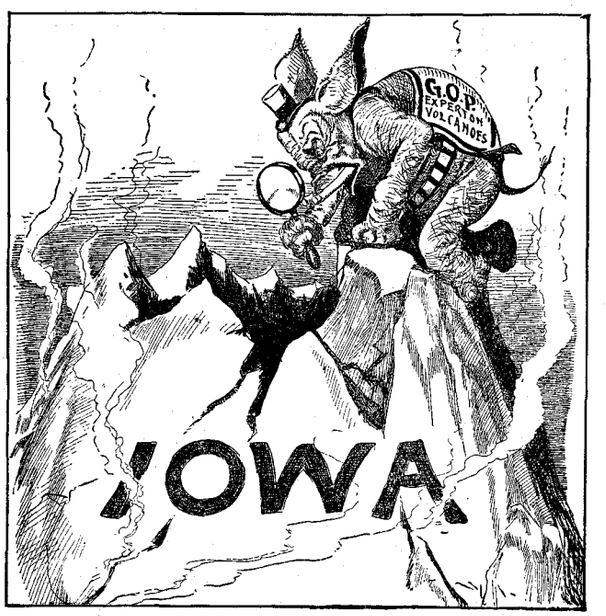


"SH! DO NOT SPEAK OR ELSE YOU'LL WAKE THE TARIFF!"


I CANNOT RUN FOR RE-ELECTION BECAUSE MANY PEOPLE IN MY DISTRICT WANT TARIFF-REVISION
NOTICE DO NOT AWAKEN THE TARIFF !
TARIFF
TRUST

AND JUST THEN SPEAKER HENDERSON CAME ALONG.
—*The Chicago Record-Herald.*

THE DONKEY: "Now you know how a split feels."
—*The Chicago News.*



FROM A SCIENTIFIC STANDPOINT CRATERS ARE INTERESTING.
—*The Philadelphia Inquirer.*

CARTOON ECHOES OF THE HENDERSON LETTER.

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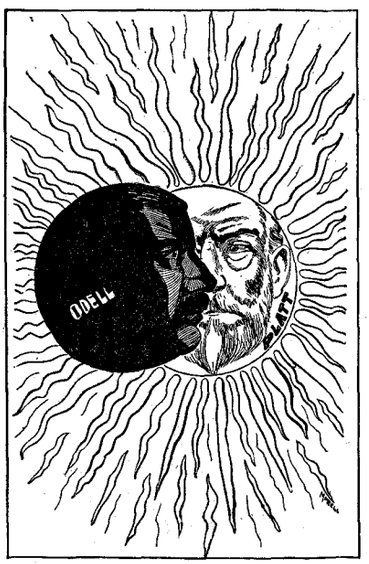
into the platform an anti-trust plank stronger than the one he originally intended. But the convention was actually under way and the Platt slate ready for ratification when Governor Odell came on from Albany and in a series of conferences lasting almost till daybreak compelled the proposed nomination of George R. Sheldon, of New York, for the lieutenant-governorship to be abandoned, and Frank W. Higgins, of Olean, to be selected instead. The objection urged against Mr. Sheldon was that he is too intimately connected with a large number of industrial combinations, and especially with the "whiskey trust."

Says the New York *Evening Post* (Ind.):

"To assert that Senator Platt's power is now finally broken by yesterday's episode would be as premature as many similar announcements of the past. But it is risking nothing to say that it must tremendously damage a prestige much tarnished by a long list of blunders. Before the convention of his own puppets the Boss has been humiliated as never before. Every delegate must now realize that, if one man can defy him with impunity, others can do so as well. The only thing necessary for the delegates to do in order to regain the free exercise of their rights and prerogatives as men and as representatives of their party is simply to declare that the rule of Platt is done, and it will be done for all time."



THE ECLIPSE.
—*The Brooklyn Eagle.*

The Baltimore *American* (Ind.) remarks:

"That was something of a political Mont Pelée which erupted at Saratoga on Tuesday evening and forced the withdrawal of George R. Sheldon from the Republican slate. His name was written opposite the office of lieutenant-governor on that slate, but after a little of Governor Odell's strenuous objection it was erased, and the name of a better candidate written in. This was done in the face of Senator Platt's opposition, and that the convention should have complied with Odell's wishes shows pretty positively that Odell is the real leader of New York Republicans. Platt saved himself this time, as he has done on numerous prior occasions, by surrendering to Odell's wishes; and, while he remains the official boss of the party, it can not be longer denied that he holds on by the favor of the present governor. Had he endeavored to fight Odell to a finish before the convention yesterday he would certainly have been unhorsed. His salvation, and the fact that he continues as the mouthpiece of the party, is due entirely to his acquiescence, after much objecting, to Odell's views concerning the unwisdom of Sheldon's nomination.

"The eruption through which the party in the Empire State has just passed will strengthen rather than injure it. Taken as a whole, it was in excellent condition on the eve of its state convention. Nothing save an impotent Democracy stood between it and victory, until it developed that the slated candidate for lieutenant-governor was a man of wide trust connections. His affiliations with Mr. Morgan were found to be of the closest, and it developed that he is a director, or rather official, in no less than a dozen Morganized corporations. A more pronounced trust candidate could not have been selected, and in declining to run with Sheldon upon the ticket Governor Odell conserved his own and the party's interests. Sheldon would have carried the ticket down to defeat, for the day is at hand when no ticket can hope to receive a majority of the suffrages of the people if it is in any way contaminated by the trust influence. That day is not far distant when no man will secure a nomination unless it be known beyond a doubt that in his opposition to the trusts he is relentless and uncompromising. In demanding that such a man be his running mate Governor Odell drove the last peg to insure his reelection and the triumph of his party."

ENGLAND AND VENEZUELA AGAIN.

PATOS is a bit of an island peeping out of the water about midway between the British island of Trinidad and the mainland of Venezuela, in a strait known as "the Dragon's Mouth." As if this were not a bad enough strait to be in, the island now finds itself claimed at the same time by Great Britain and by the versatile President Cipriano Castro of Venezuela, whose exploits in war and whose success in selling the same asphalt lakes and railroad franchises to several different people have earned him the reputation of being the champion exploiter of South America. Señor Castro is at present busy with a revolutionary rival who is trying to do unto the President as the latter did unto President Andrade, his predecessor; but President Castro has found time to threaten Great Britain with a suspension of diplomatic relations, and to claim the protection of the Monroe Doctrine. The British Foreign Office, in reply, avers that the island never belonged to Venezuela, but has been British for many, many years, and an anonymous Foreign Office dignitary is reported as exclaiming: "We wish the United States would take over the whole country; then, perhaps, we would get some peace." To which the Pittsburg *Gazette* replies that "the English statesman seems to miss the underlying principle of the Monroe Doctrine," which is the preservation of the independence of such states as Venezuela. And the Pittsburg *Dispatch* remarks:

"The charitable British readiness that the United States shall accumulate a large bunch of trouble in order to save Great Britain less trouble is familiar, but hardly a subject for gratitude. It would be just as much to the point to propose that the United States shall also take Trinidad and thus avoid friction between that island and the neighboring mainland. The British mind might not appreciate that proposition, but it is just as logical as the other one."

José Ignacio Diaz Barcenas, Venezuelan consul in Philadelphia, makes an interesting comment on the situation in the Philadelphia *North American*. He says:

"While the situation may be held to be serious, I do not regard it so, for England will be obliged to refer the dispute to arbitration. Venezuela will protest, and then this country will no doubt interpose until it is clearly made out to whom the island belongs.

"While Patos is unimportant from a commercial standpoint, it is exceedingly important from a strategic point. It lies less than two miles from the mainland, where British guns could easily command the coast and protect an invading army until it gained a secure footing. It is at present inhabited by fishermen and egg-hunters. I do not think there is any farming.

"That island has always belonged to Venezuela since the Spaniards were driven out. The ancient claim of Great Britain was settled in favor of Venezuela away back in 1840. Since 1826 Venezuela has administered what government there has been. My country can not cede or sell territory, for there is a constitutional prohibition against it. The revolution cuts no figure in the case, for even should the revolutionists succeed, the new rulers of the country would indorse the present constitution.

"Americans do not understand South American revolutions. You take them too seriously. One might say that the revolution is our method of election. There is no bad feeling, no more bad blood between the belligerents than between your political parties at election times.

"Usually the revolutionary party is the stronger, and the

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President, having grown rich, runs away, permitting the revolutionary chiefs to reorganize the Government.

"This move of President Castro in sticking to his office, and even taking the field at the head of the army, is unheard of. General Castro upset Andrade's Government and Andrade ran away. Then Castro was one year dictator, one year provisional President, and last year was elected to a six years' term as President.

"Crespo, who was the predecessor of Andrade, secured the election of Andrade in order to defeat the revolutionists, who had selected another man.

"Revolutions clear the atmosphere in my country, and the constitution goes on all the time. There is no bad blood, and the revolutionary party gaining the ascendency does not interfere with local government or the judiciary. The change only affects the administration executives and foreign ministers.

"As a rule, all of the foreign ministers are reappointed. Then the generals of the revolution go into the army, and the old officers remain, and everybody is satisfied for a year or so."

A "HOME-RULE" TAX MOVEMENT IN COLORADO.

COLORADO people are now engaged in a political campaign for the election, in November, of a governor and other state officers. More than usual interest is taken in the contest this year throughout the country on account of what is known as the Bucklin amendment to the state constitution, which will be submitted to the voters on election day for acceptance or rejection. This amendment, which takes its name from State Senator James W. Bucklin, its sponsor, proposes to grant to the people of each county and city in the State self-government in the matter of local taxation. No system of raising public revenue is favored or recommended by the friends of the amendment, according to their campaign literature, the purpose being merely to amend the constitution so that the voters of each locality shall be free every four years to change the method of taxation for local purposes.

Senator Bucklin styles it the Australasian plan, from the fact that it has been in operation in several of the Australasian colonies for varying periods of time. In March, 1899, Mr. Bucklin and two other state senators—William A. Hill and Thomas J. Ehrhart—were appointed a committee by the Senate of Colorado to investigate the state and local revenue laws and "particularly instructed to investigate the tax laws of New Zealand and the Australian colonies and the effect of such laws." During the winter and spring of 1899 and 1900 Senator Bucklin visited the Australian colonies and subsequently made a report of his findings to the state legislature in a pamphlet of forty-eight pages. The result was the enactment of a measure by the legislature to submit to the voters a constitutional amendment permitting home rule in taxation. Several months after the adjournment of the legislature the opponents of the law induced the governor to call a special session, one of the purposes of which was to repeal the submission act. Such a session was called, but the law, after an exciting debate, was allowed to stand.

The Republican platform denounces the proposed amendment as experimental and revolutionary legislation, while the Democrats only by implication favor the bill in their platform by a declaration for all legislation extending the home-rule principle. The State Federation of Labor, at its convention of June, 1902, indorsed the amendment, the president saying that "it should appeal to every union man if for no other cause that it comes nearer carrying the principles of the initiative and referendum than any other law enacted in Colorado." The Socialists, as a body, are also said to be strongly in favor of the amendment. On the other hand, a league of Denver citizens was formed September 20 for the purpose of carrying on a systematic campaign against the law all over the State. Its motto, as given in the Denver *Republican* of September 21, is: "The Bucklin amendment means the single tax, confiscation, confusion, panic." In a circular letter to the voters, signed by Jacob Fillius, president, and John E. Leet, secretary, the league says:

"Alarmed at the discovery that a secret society of single taxers, aided by contributions from all over the country, has captured many of the leaders among our workingmen, a large number of representative citizens of Denver, of both political parties, have hurriedly formed an association called the Anti-Bucklin Amendment League, for the purpose of arousing all the people to the danger that apathy and indifference may permit the proposed revolutionary change in our state constitution to be adopted.

"We earnestly urge you to protect yourself by helping us to avert this calamity. We are conservative when we assert that:

"First—The Bucklin amendment means the single tax.

"Second—It will reward tax-dodgers.

"Third—It will confiscate real estate.

"Fourth—It will confuse our tax system.

"Fifth—It will thwart the revenue law.

"Sixth—It will disturb business.

"Seventh—It will drive away capital.

"Colorado is tired of having every new experiment in government tried upon her, as doctors try a doubtful new medicine on a dog. It gives us an injurious reputation for eccentricity."

Advocates of the amendment deny that it means the single tax more than any other system of taxation, since the only object of the change is to grant to counties and cities freedom to choose by majority vote whatever plan they may desire for local purposes. Only the rural weekly newspapers—about forty of them—favor the amendment. *The Rocky Mountain News*, a Democratic daily published in Denver by United States Senator Patterson, prints arguments for and against the measure, but does not indorse it editorially.

The Denver *Republican* (Rep.) thinks that "there is danger that through the negligence of the opponents of the measure, it may secure a majority of the votes on the amendment," and goes on to say:

"The Bucklin amendment means the single land tax. Not one of its advocates can truthfully deny this, and the single tax means the ultimate confiscation of private land. If the rental value of land is not sufficient to pay the taxes levied against it, the owners will allow it to be forfeited to the State. It is the same as confiscation, and the hope of the Bucklinites is that this will be the result.

"The idea that the people of a State like Colorado should adopt a constitutional amendment the ultimate aim of which is to destroy private ownership of land is a reproach to their intelligence, and yet that is what the advocates of the Bucklin amendment are urging, and if an effort is not put forth to defeat the proposition that is what we may come to sooner or later."

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

THOSE who are trying to use soft coal in their furnaces report that they find it hard.—*The Chicago Tribune.*

HARD coal is again advancing. As most persons look at it, however, it is retreating.—*The St. Louis Globe-Democrat.*

HOBSON is going back to work, and the rescue season may now be considered officially closed.—*The Hartford Post.*

MR. BRYAN says he would like to see one trust magnate in prison. How would a caged round-baler suit him?—*The Washington Post.*

ONE Democrat was elected to the Vermont senate. That, at least, assures harmony in the party caucus in that body.—*The Atlanta Constitution.*

BRIEFLY, the Republican position is that the tariff does not need reforming and that the Republicans are the boys to reform it.—*The Chicago News.*

IF the Pottsville man who found a coal-mine in his back-yard doesn't belong to the Union, will he be permitted to mine his coal?—*The Philadelphia Ledger.*

A PENNSYLVANIA man is under arrest for stealing coal from one of the divine-right mines. This is not larceny. It is heresy.—*The Baltimore American.*

"ARE Methodists cold?" asks the Chicago *Chronicle.* Well, if they are not they doubtless will be this winter. Coal prices are the same to them as to other people.—*The Kansas City Journal.*

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LETTERS AND ART.

AMERICAN BOOKS READ ABROAD.

SOME sixty or seventy years ago, Sydney Smith, the English author and divine, asked condescendingly: "In the four quarters of the globe who reads an American book, or goes to an American play, or looks at an American statue?" His derogatory question-marks have now lost all their meaning. As is pointed out by a writer in *The World's Work* (September), practically all the notable American books are now republished in England, and the tourist finds Tauchnitz editions of the latest American "success" strewn all over Europe. The writer continues:

"In a little Lincolnshire town is a club that meets weekly to read and talk about literature, chiefly the classics. When the time came, they read Lowell, Emerson, Hawthorne, Irving, and Poe, just these five Americans. But they read them not as American writers at all: the books were regarded, in their proper perspective, as English classics. And this has been the typical English attitude. In the same town less cultivated folk were reading Will Carleton and James Whitcomb Riley, catching the minimum of local color and provincial spirit, the maximum of homely familiar sentiment; to all intents and purposes they were reading English verse. This again is typical. All these writers are read throughout Great Britain as freely as here—tho by proportionately fewer readers—and Longfellow without doubt is one of the two most popular (many even say the most popular) of English poets; but there is so faint a hall-mark of Americanism on what is read that it is all regarded as English letters."

A well-informed Englishman, when asked recently if he read the American authors, replied that he did not know America had any distinctively national literature. When pressed, however, he admitted that he was familiar with Mark Twain's writings; "and his eyes opened wider as he confessed a knowledge of this list: Bancroft, Prescott, Parkman, Motley, Fiske, John Burroughs, Captain Mahan, Frank Stockton, and Mr. Howells. Bret Harte, Mr. F. Marion Crawford, Mr. Henry James, and Mrs. Atherton, he averred, were quasi-English through their residence in London." Furthermore:

"He confessed to having read 'Helen's Babies,' and 'Two Years Before the Mast' with his 'Crusoe,' and Cooper with his Scott. He also reads Mr. Richard Harding Davis, and with commendable enthusiasm he said, 'And who is this new man Wister. That story of his'—he had read 'The Virginian,'—'is the real gold of fine, clean, vigorous life in a book.' His whole confession is an average sample of the English view—not the bookish or the university view, but the every-day benefit-of-clergy view—of American letters, tho naturally among many men the lists would vary. These writers have a steady sale in English as in American book-stores."

The writer proceeds to enumerate other definite instances of American books which are winning a recognized place in European libraries:

"Captain Mahan was actually 'discovered' in England, and every English naval officer now owns his books. With German, French, and Japanese editions—every Japanese officer is supplied with 'The Influence of Sea Power'—the volumes have affected the naval policy of the world. Mr. George Kennan's 'Siberia and the Exiles,' boasting German, French, and Danish translations, was read by the Czar, tho it was blacklisted in Russia, and it profoundly influenced European opinion. Mr. Booker T. Washington's human story, 'Up from Slavery,' eagerly read in England, has been translated into more languages, in all probability, than any other American book. And at present 'Ben Hur' is sweeping Europe about as it swept the United States, for obvious reasons, but why so late it is hard to say.

"Some of Dr. Van Dyke's work, a novel of Robert W. Chambers, and some tales of Mrs. Deland, who is popular in England, have been done into French, as has Mr. Roosevelt's 'Cromwell,' and Miss Wilkins and Mr. Howells are read in both French and German. There is a German edition of Edward Bellamy's 'Equality.' Mr. T. B. Aldrich's 'Story of a Bad Boy' is a standard reading book in French schools—officially authorized."

American novels, declares the writer in *The World's Work*, are finding a larger and larger audience in England. While it is sometimes true that novels well known here do not become known there, because the "booming" of them does not reach so far, yet "American publishers agree in admitting that a good story well written is sure of an English sale, if the society presented is not too provincially American to be comprehended." He writes further:

"'J. Devlin: Boss,' a really capable tale of American politics, was refused the imprint of a London publisher because English readers, he said, could not understand American politics. There was no such difficulty with 'David Harum' and 'Eben Holden,' which were widely read in England—'Eben Holden' to some extent in pirated editions. Here, in a way, was an American invasion, for the publishers of 'Eben Holden' have been seeking a foreign market for only a year and a half, and yet added to 'Eben Holden' five other books last season reprinted for English readers.

"Mr. Hamlin Garland's stories and other Western tales, such as Mr. Hough's 'Story of a Cowboy,' have appealed to English readers as satisfying their preconception of American life, which not even their familiarity with Mr. Howells can correct.

"Mr. Frank Norris helped to strengthen it by 'The Octopus,' profoundly affecting critics with that splendid Western canvas. Miss Johnston's romances, feeding another desire, and likewise Mr. Churchill's stories sold readily in England, but with no such rush as they piled up editions at home. Mr. F. Hopkinson Smith's stories, Mr. Cable's 'The Cavaliers,' Mr. Chambers's 'Cardigan,' were well accepted—these books cited standing for a longer list of the sort of American novel that permeates to the English story-reading class. It is useless to mention the serious books that might be typified by the late Mr. Scudder's recent 'Life of James Russell Lowell,' or such essays as Lafcadio Hearn's, as being read in England—they fall into the class of books that come to every cultivated man's table in English-speaking countries round the world: only the novels are salient on the point under consideration, and they show merely that English readers read much what Americans read—only less of it in proportion."

NEW PLAYS BY PINERO AND BENSON.

THE opening of the New York dramatic season has been signalized by two important events, the production of Mr. A. W. Pinero's latest play, "Iris," with Virginia Harned in the title rôle, and of Mr. E. F. Benson's comedy, "Aunt Jeannie," with Mrs. Patrick Campbell in the leading part. The first-named play had a long run in London last winter; the second is produced for the first time on any stage, and is the initial dramatic venture of an English writer already well known as the author of "Dodo," a society novel which has had a large sale in England. There are certain connecting links between the two plays. Both are built around the sex-motive, and both deal with the "flashy" type of English social life.

Mr. William Winter, the veteran critic of the New York *Tribune*, who metes out to both plays little but the severest kind of condemnation, sketches the plot of Mr. Benson's comedy as follows:

"In the person of Aunt Jeannie, Mrs. Campbell has to represent a tempting widow who temporarily tangles herself in a mesh of troubles by flirting with her niece's betrothed lover, in order to prevent that niece's marriage with a scamp. Her purpose is accomplished; but, in the pursuit of it, she grieves her niece and afflicts her own lover, and for a time she suffers the usual consequences of virtuous self-sacrifice. The play becomes mildly ardent in its episode of allurement, but in the main it is flabby and feeble, and the public will gain nothing from its production, aside from a pleasing view of Mrs. Campbell's some-

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what mature, tho still potential, fascination. It is the prolix synopsis of a sentimental love-story—probably a French novel—and it is completely destitute of movement. . . . Its style is dulness incarnate."

This sweeping judgment, however, is not shared by either *The Times* or *The Commercial Advertiser*. "In the dramatic essentials," declares *The Times*, "Mr. E. F. Benson's situations ring true; and if the play is not of absorbing interest, it is still interesting enough to make a vehicle for presenting Mrs. Patrick Campbell again to audiences that have learned to appreciate her in a better cause." And *The Commercial Advertiser* says:

"The quality of sex shines in her [Mrs. Patrick Campbell] as in no other English-speaking actress of our time. In Aunt Jeannie both the charm and the quality have free and full play. Her conquest of the peer was a veritable exposition, with the lightest and deftest of touches of nearly every feminine fascination—in voice, action, and manner, in eyes and hands and shoulders, in the rustle of her gown and the flash of her jewels. . . . It was acting by suggestion near its best."

MISS VIRGINIA HARNED.

All the critics agree that the subject which Mr. Pinero has chosen for his last drama is of a most disagreeable and repellent character, but all—with the exception of Mr. Winter, who brands the play as irredeemably bad—concede that "Iris" has great dramatic power. *The Times* gives the following account of the plot:

"Iris is a woman of the fashionable world, who is not only irreproachable in her life, but who exerts a positive charm and a force of beneficence among her friends. Her fall is the result of a nature that loves luxury, and that, when the necessity comes for facing poverty and discomfort, brings her lower and lower in the scale of life.

"She is in love with a young and impoverished gentleman, but is prevented from marrying him by a clause in her late husband's will providing that if she marries, the property shall cease to be hers. Instead of deciding for or against the young man and poverty, she drifts into relations with him that are clearly more than platonic.

"The catastrophe of the story is the result of the loss of her estate. A trustee absconds, leaving her only a matter of $700 or so a year to live on. Even now, however, she is not past redemption. She has only to marry the young man and go with him to face life anew in America. She decides instead to wait, living on the remnant of her husband's fortune.

"She has a fabulously wealthy admirer, Maldonado, a Spanish-American Jew, who seizes upon the opportunity to win her love. The means by which Iris is led step by step to accept money from him, and finally to become his mistress, are too intricate and subtle to be described here. But her fall is complete.

"When the young man returns from America he finds her living with Maldonado. After a painful scene, in which her emotions rise to extreme heights, he leaves her crushed. His only words are, 'I am sorry. I am sorry.' Maldonado, when he in turn discovers that Iris has never loved him, casts her angrily forth into the streets."

"Such is the drama," comments *The Evening Post*, "upon which the premier dramatist of the day has expended his ripest talents. That there is much miserable truth in it, that it is in many places both powerful and fascinating, and that it often exhibits in striking fashion the skill of the practised playwright can not be denied, but it is no less certain that the whole tone of it is unpleasant, and the general effect of it unwholesome." *The Commercial Advertiser*, on the other hand, pays enthusiastic tribute to the play:

"Every detail is fused with the art that hides art and labor into a harmoniously proportioned and logically cumulative whole. There may well be two years' work in 'Iris.' Every stroke is at once incisive and decisive. The severe economy of means, the austerity that pervades the piece, the impression of minute and naked verity, as of stripped souls, that it conveys—all deepen its dramatic pregnancy. One forgets that there is an audience."

The tone of Mr. Winter's column-and-a-half critique in *The Tribune* may be judged by his characterization of "Iris" as "a play in which not a single important incident is clean, and scarce a single character worthy of respect; a play in which people talk and act as if there were no such thing on earth as moral principle or physical purity, and as if they were living in a society bereft alike of virtue, decency, and common sense." Worse compounds of "libertinism and carnality," he adds, "have, unhappily, more than once been seen upon our stage; but no compound of those ingredients quite so pretentious in form, or quite so specious in its pretension, has hitherto been exhibited."

MRS. PATRICK CAMPBELL.

REVIVAL OF A LOST ART.

MUCH interest has been aroused in France by the attempt of a group of Parisian sculptors to resuscitate an art in which some of the world's greatest artists have excelled, namely, sculpture in wax. Quite a number of statuettes made in this new, yet old, medium have been recently exhibited in Paris, with results that are regarded as decidedly encouraging. Mr. Frederick Lees, who writes of the movement in *The Architectural Record* (New York, September) declares:

"The production of works of art in wax dates from the earliest times, and probably originated in Persia and Egypt, where wax was employed to embalm the dead. The Greeks are known to have ornamented their bedrooms with wax images of their children; and in the time of Alexander, when the art was widespread, there existed a class of artists in wax who became serious rivals of sculptors and bronze-founders in modeling the human face, animals, and natural objects of all kinds. Goldsmiths and sculptors of Italy practised the art from the fifteenth century onward, and produced many masterpieces, some of which have been handed down to the present day. In the Munich art-gallery is a wax 'Descent from the Cross' attributed to Michelangelo; in the Wicar collection at Lille is a wax bust of a young girl—surpassingly modeled—which has been attributed to the Florentine Orsino; and Benvenuto Cellini has left behind several fine works, including two well-known portraits of Ales-

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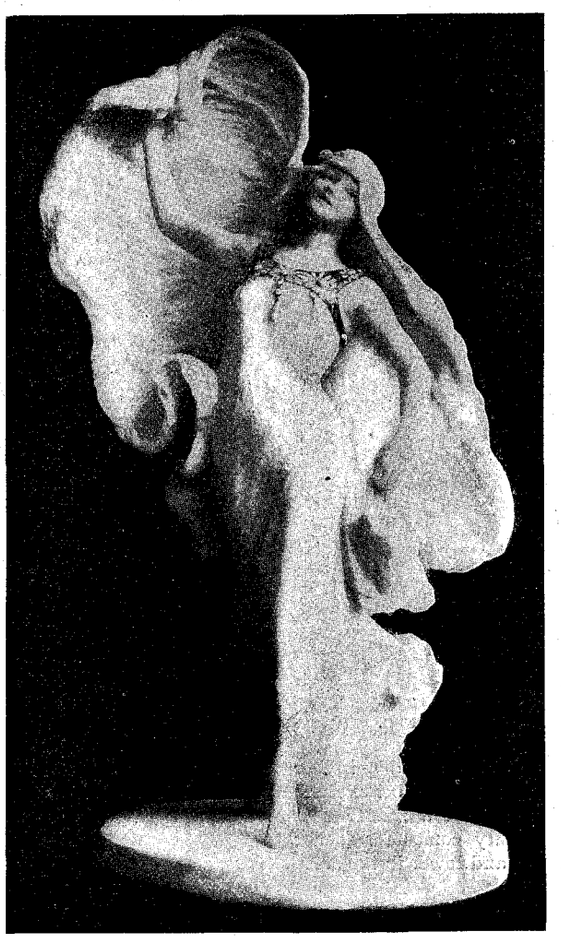
sandro and Francis de Medici. In France, this interesting branch of art has also had many celebrated adherents in the past. On the death of the kings of France, it used to be the custom to expose to public view a wax model of the monarch's face; and that of Henry IV., modeled and colored by Guillaume Dupré (1574–1662), can be seen at the present time in the Musée Condé, at Chantilly. But the most celebrated of all French sculpors in wax was Antoine Benoit, whose portrait of Louis XIV. at Versailles is the most authentic likeness of that monarch in existence."

M. Stanislas Lami, a sculptor of note and an earnest inquirer into little-known by-paths of the history of art, was the first to attempt to follow the example of these eminent predecessors. On commencing his work, however, about four years ago, he experienced many difficulties. Says Mr. Lees:

"For six months he did not disdain to study in the workshops of Parisian doll-makers, and, tho he was told much which was useless to him, he did not fail to pick up many hints, which with his superior knowledge as a sculptor, were of extreme value. Needless to say, however, he produced nothing but failures during the first six months he was working on his own resources; and it was not until the expiration of that time that he acquired the many *tours de main* which are necessary to introduce the melted wax (prepared and hardened by a method which is the sculptor's secret), into the various parts of the mold which has been taken from the finished clay model. When this has been done the statuette has to be finished, in much the same way as a marble statuette, with sculptor's tools warmed to various temperatures. The work from first to last has to be carried out in a studio kept at a uniform and high degree of temperature, and the statuette must be protected from all currents of cold air, which would have the effect of causing cracks and irreparably damaging it. M. Lami has from time to time exhibited his beautiful little wax figures at the Salon; but until he had a collective exhibition at the Galerie des Artistes Modernes in Paris people were unable to judge of the importance of the revival upon which he has been engaged. This exhibition included twenty-six works, composed of imaginative subjects, busts, and portraits, tinted and colored in a manner which makes them admirably adapted for home decoration. Two of this talented sculptor's works have found their way into the art collection of a well-known American connoisseur."



A DANCING GIRL.
Modeled in Wax by Léon Delagrange.
Courtesy of *The Architectural Record.*

Another sculptor who has been highly successful in producing statuettes in hardened wax is M. Léon Delagrange. His "dancing-girls," observes Mr. Lees, "delight the eye as much by their color as by the exquisiteness of their form." In parts the wax is "almost as thin as a sheet of note-paper," and "makes one marvel at the technical skill of the artist." Mme. Thérèse Peltier, a lady-sculptor of Paris, has also made a specialty of sculpture in wax. The writer concludes:

"The impression that wax is too fragile a material for serious works of art is at once swept away by the fact that the works of these three artists, like those of their predecessors, are, if not as durable as marble, at least as permanent as terra-cotta. Wax hardens with age, Benoit's portrait of Louis XIV., at Versailles, which is unprotected by glass, being almost as hard to-day as a piece of marble. If modern works are placed under glass covers, it is not on account of extreme fragility but to protect them from accidents and dust. When these facts become thoroughly understood, statuettes in hardened wax will become almost as popular in the ornamentation of our interiors as those in other materials."

A CHURCHMAN'S INDICTMENT OF MODERN FICTION.

A VIGOROUS onslaught upon some of the leading tendencies of latter-day fiction is made by a writer in the current issue of the London *Church Quarterly Review*. In the opening sentences of his article he gives it as his opinion that "a great and portentous change is passing over the character and spirit of English literature." The real significance of this change may be gathered from his statement that "the one section of contemporary authorship which commands and satisfies the public ear, to the exclusion of more solid thought and to the serious detriment (in many of its forms) of the national character, is the modern novel." He continues:

"Paradoxical as it may seem, one of the deadliest injuries to works of imagination arises from their unparalleled commercial success. The immense sums netted by popular novelists naturally have a tendency to divert the attention of writers from devotion to what is highest to that which will secure the largest pecuniary profit. It has been forcibly said that 'when literature has been degraded to the purpose of amusing the public, and when mental endowment and words of the highest meaning have been profaned by men ignorant of the significance even of their own powers, there flows forth a stream of intellectual life through society cut off from its true fountain and diverted from its proper object.' With the prevailing adoration of wealth and its accompanying universal indulgence in lavish expenditure, the temptation to prostitute literary talent to the production of work that will command the widest sale is almost overpowering. The modern novelist is exceptionally exposed to this temptation, as his lot is cast in days 'when the intellect is vexed with the spur of competition, and the inspiration of heaven is bargained away in the dearest market.'"

The "problem novel" is the first branch of contemporary fiction to come under the scalpel of this critic, who claims that this class of work "exercises a specially baneful influence." He writes:

"Amongst the questions which modern learning, scientific discovery, and the conditions of our complicated social organization have opened, there are many which demand scrupulously accurate statement, special knowledge, severe self-restraint, and delicate handling. To fail in any of these qualities is to render their discussion at once worthless and injurious; to be absolutely silent about some of them, in works of imagination, whose end is joy and beauty, is the only seemly choice. Yet it is just those problems which are best left shrouded under cover of work designed for serious and professional study that are now dragged

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into the full light of discussion *coram populo*. The enigmas and perplexities of life, the relations between the sexes, the difficulties suggested by the modern doctrine of heredity, the religious misgivings of a highly critical age, are all dissected with unblushing audacity and dogmatic self-assurance. . . . So rapid has been the decline that authoresses only recently notorious for what are now termed *risky* stories—the epithet is one of those newly coined euphemisms with which our age palliates well-earned and stern reprobation—are already distanced, and their books, once in wide demand, are no longer asked for, because they do not satisfy the jaded appetite for more highly seasoned dishes. A cultivated taste for the abnormal on the part of reader and writer alike is apt to sicken at ordinary fare, and at the present rate of downward progress it is hard to say to what depth of license the modern novelist will descend."

Passing on to a consideration of "the gradual but continuous moral descent of a writer once of the highest promise" (Lucas Malet), and to "the terrible and baneful influence of the school of animalism under the guidance of such leaders as Ibsen and Zola," the writer declares: "When the veil is torn away which the modesty of our predecessors drew over the secrets of nature and the sores of sickness, it is only the eyes of angels that can look on without contracting moral taint." We quote further:

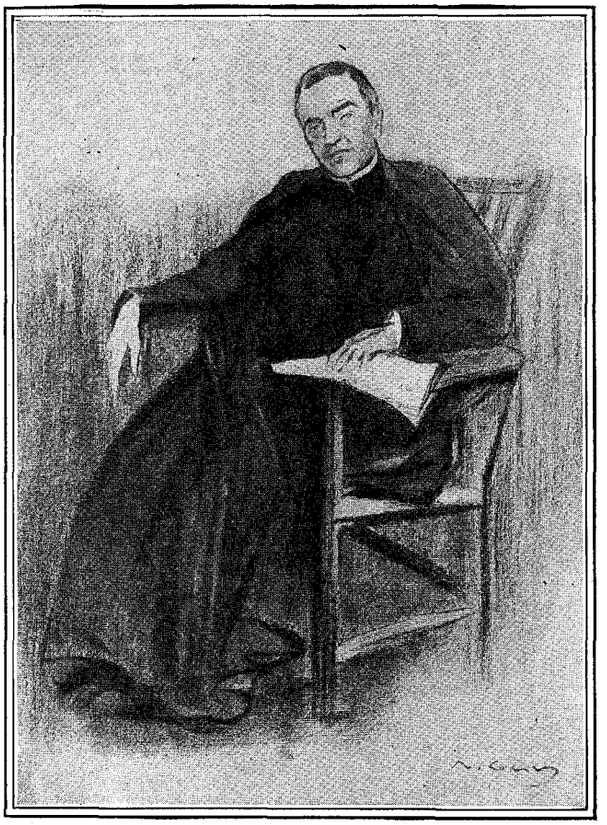
"The mischief penetrates into the most unsuspected quarters, creeps through the fences with which love tries to hedge round the young, promotes a taste which rapidly calls for further stimulant. Young girls devour books tending to shake their Christian faith and to sully their moral purity. Not long since 'Robert Elsmere' was the book chiefly in request in one of the greatest English centers of female education. It is the testimony of a librarian of forty years' standing in a town largely inhabited and resorted to by the cream of the upper English middle class that there has been for some years past a continuous decline in the moral character of the novels most largely in demand. Stories which a generation ago were looked at askance as being risky and questionable are now entirely neglected in favor of more outspoken impropriety."

There are not wanting signs, concludes the writer, to indicate that the deterioration in religion and morals is extending, and he urges those who have the welfare of their country at heart to speak out with no uncertain voice:

"If Christian fathers and mothers were more mindful of their duty, and insisted on the exclusion of questionable novels from their houses, an improvement might be effected; but we tremble to think of the conditions under which a younger generation will be brought up by mothers whose minds have been nurtured upon the garbage now so plentifully administered. If the pulpit were more frequently used for its fitting purpose of warning against a real and pressing evil, not by sweeping generalizations, as was too much the habit among the earlier Evangelicals, who denounced all novels indiscriminately, but by judicious and sympathetic teaching, and by outspoken condemnation of the growing laxity of morals, the public conscience might be awakened to the urgency of the peril. And, perhaps more than all, if those in high places would set the example of discountenancing not only pernicious literature, but its authors, a higher tone of feeling would gradually obtain. The responsibility of those in position is greater than they realize, and the patronage extended to what seems only doubtful may have far-reaching and disastrous consequences."

VERDAGUER, THE PERSECUTED POET OF SPAIN.

JACINTO VERDAGUER, the last and greatest of the Spanish mystic poets, was buried in June at Barcelona with national honors. The tributes that have lately been paid to his memory are in striking contrast to the treatment accorded to him during his lifetime. This man of genius, in the words of his panegyrist and friend, M. P. Edouard de Bray, "lived a life of physical and moral torture," "suffering for want of his very daily bread." He was bitterly persecuted by his contemporaries, not a voice being raised in his defense, even in the newspapers, so powerful were his enemies.



JACINTO VERDAGUER.

Verdaguer, as appears from an article by M. de Bray in *La Nouvelle Revue* (Paris), was born in the province of Barcelona in 1845. He was educated to be a priest, but showed great poetic talent at an early age, and won the first prize for poetry at the "Jeux Floraux" (Floral Games) in 1865. His ambition was to sing of the sea, and he secured an appointment as chaplain of the *Ciudad Caudal*, a ship belonging to the Spanish Transatlantic Company, of which the Marquis de Comillas was president. Later, the poet took up his abode at the palace of the marquis, who proved to be a veritable Mæcenas. Verdaguer's first notable poem was "The Atlantide," based on legends of a "lost continent" beneath the Atlantic Ocean. It appeared in Catalonian, but was speedily translated into Castilian, French, English, Italian, German, and Russian—"the best proof," as M. de Bray remarks, "of its value as a poetical masterpiece." The writer continues:

"In modern Catalonian literature Verdaguer is without peer. In him are to be found the epic poet and the mystic poet *par excellence;* and he sings of the marvels of nature—of light, the sea, the heavens, the mountains, the flowers, and the rivers—with wonderful versatility and brilliant coloring. In that majestic poem, 'The Atlantide,' he narrates the geological and ethnological birth of the Spanish nation. His tone has the dignity of the Homeric epics, and the solemn rhythm of his lines is broken only by a few songs and ballads. In 'The Atlantide,' as in all his other works of any magnitude, the descriptive and lyric predominate over the dramatic elements, and this fact is well illustrated in such passages as those which describe the 'Burning of the Pyrenees,' the 'Garden of the Hesperides,' and, particularly, the 'Cataract' and the 'Engulfment.'"

Verdaguer was very popular in Barcelona until his patron and protector, the Marquis de Comillas, died. It appears, however, that upon the death of the marquis, his son and heir, Antonio y Bree, and Antonio's wife, conceived a great dislike toward the

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poet-priest. Verdaguer, it is said, once rebuked the wife for her *décolleté* costume. Doubtless there were also other reasons for Antonio's hostility to Verdaguer. Whatever the true causes may have been, the poet was soon made to feel the sting of a most relentless persecution, "the Jesuits who controlled the Transatlantic Company being in the lead," according to M. de Bray. He was driven from the palace of the marquis, lost his place as chaplain of the *Ciudad Caudal*, and was accused of being immoral and avaricious. The Bishop of Vich deprived him of even the right to officiate at mass, claiming that he was insane. "Nothing could exhaust the patience and equanimity of the poet," we are told, altho at one time he feared his reason would give way under the strain. During this period appeared some of his most beautiful poems: "Idylls and Mystic Songs," "Patria," "Songs of Montferrat," "Religious Songs for the People," "Dreams of St. John," "Jesus-Child," and "Flowers of Mary." These songs are as simple as nature itself, declares M. de Bray, and continually remind the reader that their author was himself the son of a peasant, raised on the country-side. "Verdaguer," adds the Barcelona *Journal*, "offered his gifts in a cup chiseled by art and perfumed by faith in the Virgin Mary, his lady-love."

In addition to "The Atlantide," Verdaguer wrote another long epic poem, "Canigou," considered by many his *chef d'œuvre*. Of this latter poem M. de Bray says:

"More modern in its conception than 'The Atlantide,' 'Canigou' has yet many points of similarity. The poet sings of the Pyrenean birth of the Catalonian people, who took refuge in the mountains from the invasion of the Arabs. 'Canigou' is an epic of the Sword and the Cross, the one delivering the country from Mussulman tyranny, the other freeing it from ignorance and ancient superstitions."

The denial of justice to Verdaguer, concludes the writer, has "opened the gates to his immortality." And to-day he lies buried on the flank of a mountain overlooking the sea, "between two immensities: heaven which gave him so much of his inspiration, and the sea which he celebrated as a lover of its greatness and beauty. Heaven smiles upon him. The ocean sings for him its eternal melodies and bears away on the crests of its waves the scum of hatred and injustice so long directed against this exemplary priest."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

CONTRADICTIONS OF LITERARY CRITICISM.

WHAT is a professor of literature to tell his classes regarding the disputed points in literary criticism? When the critics themselves are hopelessly at odds, how can the teacher speak with authoritative voice? It is the professor of English literature in the University of Oregon, Mr. Herbert Crombie Howe, who propounds these questions, and he applies himself to a settlement of the problems they imply. He writes (in *The North American Review*, September):

"It will be easy to formulate from a press full of critical works complete schedules of the contradictions of literary criticism—concerning the nature of poetry; the function and correct method of the novelist; the general standing of any notable author; the value of any of his larger works, the truth, sincerity, taste, and imaginative insight displayed therein; the truth and power of any given characterization; and each and every other point worthy of consideration. It has proved stimulating to lay such schedules before the student at the beginning of his study of every novelist from Scott to George Meredith, of every poet from Wordsworth to William Morris, and of every essayist from Carlyle and Macaulay to Matthew Arnold and Walter Pater. Now, is it wise that the debatable character of all recent criticism should be hidden from the many? Should he who runs as he reads be left to suppose that the exact rank, and, still more, the exact worth of Dickens and Thackeray, Tennyson and Browning are already forever and immutably weighed and determined? Suppose we invite one of these hasty devourers of the pabulum offered in the 'literary column' of the newspaper to weigh and consider a few of the more fundamental, striking, or amusing contradictions which an hour's search among the 'authorities' will bring to light. . . . The fact is that every critic condemns something in this author; only what one condemns the others praise, and *vice versa*."

In order to illustrate his point, Professor Howe selects the poetry of Tennyson, and shows how radically the critics have differed in their judgments upon it. For example:

"Is 'Maud' a poem great in conception and intellectual content?

YES.	NO.
'Every great poem then—and no poem can be great without intensity of feeling—is also a treasurehouse of the intellectual powers, and can be studied, like a universe, from that point of view. 'Maud' is not one of the least of these.' (Stopford Brooke, 'Tennyson, His Art and Relations to Modern Life.')	'Maud' is scanty in theme, thin in treatment, poor in thought.' (Stedman, 'Victorian Poets.')

"Are the 'Idyls of the King' Tennyson's greatest achievement?

YES.	NO.
'We come at last to Tennyson's master work.' (Stedman, 'Victorian Poets.') 'His finest thoughts and finest lines are here. They are his *magnum opus*, and on them his claim to fame rests.' (W. J. Dawson, 'Makers of Modern Poetry.')	'If M. Taine's theory of a decadence in every artist and school of artists is to be applied in this case, the decadence period of Tennyson must be taken as commencing with 'The Idyls of the King.' (H. Buxton Forman, 'Our Living Poets.')

"Is 'In Memoriam' a poem of profound thought and heartfelt emotion?

YES.	NO.
'It is the central poem of the century, not only in date, but in scope and character. In its complexity and inwardness, its passion pulsing through every vein of thought, . . .' (Vida Scudder, 'Modern English Poets.')	'. . . Cold and monotonous, and too prettily arranged. He goes into mourning, but, like a correct gentleman, with brand-new gloves, wipes away his tears with a cambric handkerchief, . . .' (Taine, 'History of English Literature.')

These instances are only typical of hundreds more of the same kind. How shall we bring order out of this "critical chaos"? How determine what is truth? Professor Howe continues:

"We take it for granted that we all believe there is truth here somewhere, if we may only possess ourselves of some means of recognizing it. Shall we simply apply to our own critical consciences for an ultimate decision in each case? Very good, only then no two will announce the same things as truth.

"Suppose instead, then, we begin by criticizing the critics. Let us, by patient research, determine the personal idiosyncrasy of each critic, and by discounting it work all these contradictions down into smiling agreement. No doubt, much may be accomplished in this way. . . . The key to some critics is, however, not so easily found. And it must be expected that criticism of the critics will prove as full of debate and contradiction as the criticism of poets and novelists. At the best, this method of attack will probably only shift the scene of battle; while, at the worst, it may lead to 'confusion worse confounded,' and a mere multiplication of inextricable entanglements. What hope is left?

"There is only one more chance—let us out with it at once—the systematic application, by some critic of synthetic genius, of the famed Hegelian method. The world still refuses, it is true, to accept, in entire seriousness of mind, the Hegelian postulate that human thought—which is always critical—has in all lines and in all times arrived at truth *via* contradiction. Nevertheless, the thorough-paced application of this maxim by its author to various fields of thought proved it to be one of the most practically illuminative forms assumed by the doctrine of evolution. Applied, for example, to the study of the Greek philosophers, whose theories seem at first blush quite as chaotic as those of our recent literary critics, the Hegelian method did actually produce therein the semblance of an orderly evolution of thought. There is, then, hope that, if this method should be applied to our literary critics with all the patience, intelligence, and comprehensiveness exercised by its author, we might here also lay hold of some clue which would lead us through these very contradictions to the beauty and fulness of truth."

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SCIENCE AND INVENTION.

WHAT IS ELECTRICITY?

DO we know what electricity is? The answer to this question, like so many other answers, depends on a definition. What do we mean by knowledge? In one sense we do not know what anything is, while on the other hand, no known thing has its nature utterly hidden from us. This is a truism; if we know of a thing's existence we at least know one fact about it. A writer in *Science and Industry* (September) tells us some of the things that we know of electricity, which warrant us, he thinks, in asserting that we know what it is, at least as well as we know what heat or light are. He says:

"Did you ever run across the man who likes to encourage the electrical engineer by telling him that 'electricity is in its infancy'? If so, you will likely have noticed that after talking to you for a while he usually winds up about as follows: 'Yes, my friend, all these things are very wonderful, but can you tell me just what electricity is?' He asks this question in a way that shows full well that he does not expect an answer, and chuckles to himself at the way he has cornered you. Here is a man, he thinks, whose business it is to work with something, and he can't tell what it is. He looks upon this as a good joke on you in particular, and the electrical fraternity in general.

"Now, as a matter of fact, if you adopted the Irishman's method of answering a question by asking another, the other fellow might find himself badly stuck. Suppose you ask for an explanation as to what light is or what heat is. He will doubtless begin to tell you all about wave theories, wave-lengths, and a lot of other things, but after all he can only tell you what light and heat are *thought* to be. There are also several theories as to what electricity is, and you are, therefore, just as well off regarding a knowledge of electricity as he is of light or heat. What we know of electricity is the result of experiment. We have a great many experimental facts at our disposal, and on these facts as a groundwork, a theory as to what electricity is can be built up. The theory which will give a satisfactory explanation of the greatest number of experimental facts is accepted for the time being, but may be modified later. Later experiments may bring out points that show the old theory to be untenable and a new one has to be constructed. It is the same way with regard to the theory of light, heat, sound, or other physical phenomena, and the man who thinks he is sticking you by asking you to explain just what electricity is, and who thinks he has a good joke on you when you can't explain, is likely to be pulled up short when you ask him to tell you the exact nature of a few other common physical phenomena.

"As stated above, we first get the experimental facts and then construct a theory that will fit the facts. In other words, we state what we *think* electricity is. We know that when a wire is moved across a magnetic field, an electromotive force is set up in it. This experimental fact was discovered by Faraday. We know that such is the case. Just why it is the case and just how this electromotive force is set up we do not know, altho we may construct a theory which will set forth what we believe to be the case. Copper conducts electricity much better than iron, and it also conducts heat better than iron. These are facts, and the best we can do is to construct theories which will explain these facts to the best of our knowledge.

"Now, as far as the use of electricity is concerned, it makes very little difference whether we know what electricity is or not. We know how to generate it and utilize it, and we also know very exactly the laws governing its flow, how it acts under given conditions, and so on. Some men seem to get the idea into their heads that they can not learn anything about electricity unless they first know just what electricity is. The desire to get to the bottom of things is a praiseworthy one, and every person interested in electrical work should be familiar with the latest theories and ideas regarding the nature of electricity; but a knowledge of such theories is not essential to a man's understanding the practical application of electricity. . . . Theories regarding the nature of electricity have changed greatly within the last few years, but this has not interfered with its practical applications.

"The man who gets into a stew and makes up his mind that he can't learn anything about electricity until he finds out just what electricity is had better leave theories alone for the time being, and take the experimental facts as he finds them. If he does this he will be surprised to find that he is learning a great deal about the subject, and if he attends strictly to business the chances are he will know so much, or think he does, that he will get up a pet theory of his own. At any rate, it is to be hoped he will. He will then be ready for those cheerful people who take a delight in asking for information on the subject. A dose or two of his pet theory would, no doubt, cure them of the habit."

HOUSEHOLD GYMNASTICS.

ARE the exercises of housework, as American women habitually perform them, good gymnastics for the body? This question is asked in *The American Kitchen Magazine* by James Buckham, who answers it in the negative. Housework might give good exercise, he says, if properly regulated, but it does not do so as at present performed. Says Mr. Buckham:

"The writer has watched many women sweep, and he has rarely seen one who did not wield her broom continuously on one side of the body. The ambidextrous sweeper is uncommon. Examine a hundred brooms in daily use, and you will see that ninety-nine of them are worn obliquely across the bottom. The sweeper always holds her broom at the same angle, on the same side of the body. She stoops constantly in the same direction, repeats the same stroke, fatigues the same muscles, and brings pressure to bear upon the same vital organs. The result is lopsidedness. Few habitual sweepers have symmetrical bodies. One shoulder is almost always elevated above the other, besides being more noticeably padded with muscle. The figure gradually acquires a cant toward the side on which the broom is wielded.

"How about the hygiene of the broom? In spite of the utmost precaution—and the average American woman does not take that precaution—a broom will stir up a cloud of fine dust, dust that you can smell and taste, dust that defies all nature's filtering arrangements and penetrates to the remotest cells of the lungs. Even the patent carpet-sweeper raises some dust. . . . . .

"The sweeper's 'weak back' is simply a protest from the kidneys, too much strain and drag on those sensitive organs. There is a distinct transverse strain in the motion of sweeping, a sort of stretching, tearing pull, especially when the broom is habitually wielded on one side. This strain is bad for the kidneys; and the result is that most women who do a good deal of sweeping have chronically weak and aching backs.

"The heart is less directly affected by broom-sweeping than the lungs or kidneys. But most sweepers stoop too much forward, holding the head down, and the resultant compression of the chest walls confines the heart at a time when its action should be most free and unimpeded. And the heart, we know, is also indirectly affected by anything that interferes with the proper functioning of lungs and kidneys."

Washing, as commonly practised, Mr. Buckham tells us, is even worse than sweeping. Bending over a steaming tub, habitually compressing the chest, straining breast and back muscles over the scrubbing-board in an unnatural position, and inhaling hot vapors, is decidedly unwholesome exercise. He goes on to say:

"The 'life' of a washerwoman—her expectancy of service, that is—is noticeably brief. Unless she is an exceptionally strong and healthy woman, she will give out in from five to ten years. 'Broken back' is the common complaint. That means abused and diseased kidneys and the beginning of a constitutional breakdown. Patent-medicine dealers reap enormous profits from the pitiful endeavors of washerwomen to rid themselves of that terrible ache and weakness in the small of the back. Unquestionably, washing is not good gymnastics.

"Bad, too, are the constrained positions of floor-scrubbing; the strainings and stretchings and tiptoeings of housecleaning and window-washing; the removing and sifting of ashes; the cleaning of sooty stoves and stove-pipes; the feverish toil over ironing-boards, while the blood boils in an unnaturally high temperature,

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and the feet, legs, and back ache with long standing in one position."

The writer avers that no fair, reasonable, and experienced houseworker can deny the facts as stated by him, and he concludes that housework, for the most part, as American women perform it, is not healthful exercise. He says:

"There are, to be sure, some functions of housework that are physically beneficial, or at least harmless. Bread-making, cooking, dish-washing, bed-making—comparatively light exercises like these are unobjectionable. But the heavier household work, as generally conducted, is physically detrimental.

"It is not to be denied, on the other hand, that our wiser sisters of leisure choose their gymnastics with wisdom and good sense. The scientific results of every exercise are noted and understood, and physical play is regulated accordingly. Promotion of bodily symmetry and of vital function are the results sought and gained. If housework could be revolutionized or regulated in such a way as to have the same ends in view, it might possess some real gymnastic value. There is a chance for very effective reform in the manner of performing the heavier household tasks. The application of scientific principles of physical culture to these tasks, in order that they may be performed in the most healthful and hygienic manner, would be a reform of immense benefit to American women. It is with this end in view that we should seek enlightenment from the physical culturists, instead of ridiculing their practises. For who can deny that they have availed themselves of the right principles of physical culture? If only these same principles could be applied industrially, so that the two birds, of physical development and household economy, might be brought to bag with one stone, what a happy consummation it would be!"

HOW TO USE SOFT COAL.

THE probability that, owing to the coal strike, large numbers of persons in the eastern United States who have been accustomed to use anthracite in their houses will be obliged to find other fuel this winter, moves *The Scientific American* to print editorially some directions regarding the domestic use of soft coal. In spite of the possibilities of gas, wood, and electricity, the writer is of opinion that it is to bituminous coal that the public will have to turn during the winter as the cheapest and most satisfactory substitute for anthracite, and upon investigation he is satisfied that this may be had in sufficient quantities at prices not exceeding $5 or $6 a ton. There is no quality in soft coal, he goes on to say, that unfits it for domestic use.

"Indeed, as a matter of fact, practically no other fuel is used, or has been used, for domestic purposes in Great Britain, and while the cooking-ranges differ somewhat in design from those used in this country for anthracite coal, it will be quite possible for the householder, by using a little judgment, to burn soft coal to advantage in the ordinary American cooking-stove. The most important fact to remember is that the great quantities of gas thrown off when soft coal is first ignited render it necessary to supply considerably more air above the bed of fuel than is the case with anthracite coal. Thus, in replenishing the kitchen stove, it will not do to fill the grate entirely full of fresh fuel, since this would result in the rapid lowering of the oven temperature, which would not be restored until the mass had become ignited and the gases had been somewhat burned off. It will be found that the best method is to feed small quantities of fuel to the fire at frequent intervals, keeping the lower drafts closed more than they would be in burning anthracite coal, and keeping the upper draft constantly open. For use in the heating-furnace, soft coal will be found to give good results when once the proper manipulation of the furnace has been learned. It should be understood at the outset that more constant attention will be necessary, for the reason that soft coal burns more quickly and will not remain incandescent for so long a time as anthracite coal. During the daytime the attendant will have no difficulty in keeping a steady fire if he is careful to feed the furnace frequently; to keep the bottom drafts but slightly open; and to give a liberal feed of air through the air-inlet in the furnace-door. Owing to the rapidity of combustion of bituminous coal, it will not be possible to bank up the furnace for the night and leave it with a certainty that there will be a live fire remaining in the morning; but this difficulty can be overcome if a ton of anthracite is laid in with the winter's supply of soft coal, and the anthracite used only for banking up the fire over-night. A ton of anthracite used for this purpose should suffice to tide the household over the period of high prices.

"There is one feature connected with the use of soft coal, however, which, unless it be carefully safeguarded, may introduce an element of danger. We refer to the heavy deposit of soot in the flues which will occur when soft coal is used. This soot, unless it is swept out at stated intervals, will accumulate, and being inflammable would be liable to ignite and produce a fierce fire in the chimney, with a consequent risk to the dwelling. It sometimes happens that the ends of rafters or beams are, by careless or ignorant construction, allowed to project into the chimney flues. These might become ignited and carry fire to the interior of the house. There is further danger that the shower of sparks from a burning chimney would ignite the shingle roof of the suburban cottage. These risks may be obviated by sweeping the chimney, say, once in two months. The 'chimney-sweep' is an important personage in the old countries, and it would be a curious incidental development of the strike if he should make his appearance, even temporarily, in this country."

ANOTHER THEORY OF SEX.

NOTWITHSTANDING the fate of Dr. Schenck's once famous hypothesis of sex-determination, another has been put forward by Dr. A. Van Lint, a Belgian physician. This new hypothesis, as we learn from a review of Dr. Van Lint's book in *Nature* (London, September 4), is partly a revival of former theories. According to it the sex of the child corresponds always to that of the weaker parent, this being a device of nature to keep the sexes approximately of equal numbers. As to the mechanism of the matter, Van Lint asserts that the cells of the male and female generative principles are what he calls "antithetic," being related to each other perhaps as are right- and left-handed crystals of the same substance. The same kind of antithesis exists between the whole masculine body and the feminine body, and also between the body-cells in each individual of either sex and the cells of the generative principle. The male body cells are accordingly sexually equivalent to the female generative cells and *vice versa*. Thus as the stronger generative cells will be most potent in determining the sex of the offspring, the child will have the sex of the weaker parent. Dr. Van Lint believes that his theory harmonizes exceptionally well with the facts, explaining, for instance, what is known as "crossed inheritance," that is, the special resemblance of a child to the parent of opposite sex, which has often been noted. Says the reviewer in *Nature*:

"Dr. A. Van Lint has convinced himself of the validity of a somewhat extraordinary new theory as to the determination of sex. . . . If it is true, it should give pause to virile fathers who wish to have sons, for unless they can secure still more vigorous mates they are sure to have daughters only. The theory is, that the offspring follow the sex of the weaker parent, tho, as we read on, this turns out to mean the parent whose available germ-cells are relatively less vigorous. . . . . .

"The author seeks to show with great ingenuity that the available statistical and experimental results on this difficult subject may be harmonized with his views, and concludes by showing that the so-called auto-regulation of the proportions of the sexes is also explicable on his theory, according to which it is always the more feeble that nature insists on replacing. If we had space at our disposal we should be delighted to disagree with the ingenious author in regard to the detailed facts, but it would be of little avail since we can not admit his postulates. The moral of the book seems good—that the strong man who wishes to have sons must find a still stronger mate; but it also follows, unfortunately, that the weak woman who does not wish to have daugh-

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ters has no resource but to find a still weaker husband. The thesis, if accepted, should beget humility in those male parents who have large families of lusty sons."

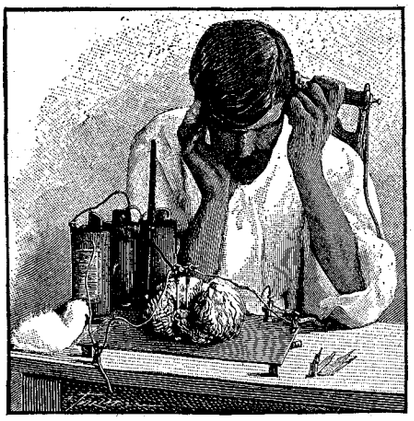
ELECTRICAL WAVES AND THE HUMAN BRAIN.

UNDER this suggestive title, the results of some recent experiments are set forth in *La Nature* (Paris, August 25) by M. Emile Guarini. He lays stress on the discoveries, among others, of Collins, already noticed in these columns, on the sensitiveness of the brain to electric waves, which M. Guarini regards as giving a new standing to the somewhat discredited hypothesis of thought-transference or telepathy. Says the writer:

"In a note presented to the [Paris] Academy of Sciences, Prof. Thomas Tommasina, of Geneva, reached the conclusion that the human body may serve as a receiving 'antenna' in wireless telegraphy. We have ourselves on several occasions verified the assertion of M. Tommasina, and we have found that the human body is a receptive antenna almost as perfect as a wire or a metal rod. It is less conductive than the metal, but, on the other hand, it has a great surface, which has been practically shown to be very advantageous for the reception of waves in wireless telegraphy.

"First we tried our own body as a receiver and then as a transmitting antenna, properly insulating it from the ground. We were thus able to communicate with points at a considerable distance, sending and receiving waves by means of the human body (see Fig. 1).

"Mr. A. Frederick Collins, a young American electrical engineer, has gone much further than this. Mr. Collins has found that electric waves of high frequency—for instance those due to some lightning discharges—act on the brains of men and animals before and after death. The brain acts as a coherer; it coheres and then decoheres automatically. More than this, the human body may serve as a complete receiver in wireless telegraphy. We have the antenna and the coherer. Only the battery remains, and Mr. Collins finds this in the nervous system.



RECEPTION OF SIGNALS BY A WAVE-COLLECTOR.

"In experimenting on a live cat that had been anesthetized, Mr. Collins and his collaborators, among whom were well-known American professors and specialists, remarked that the cat jumped under the influence of the electric waves as if she had been subjected to an intermittent or alternating current.

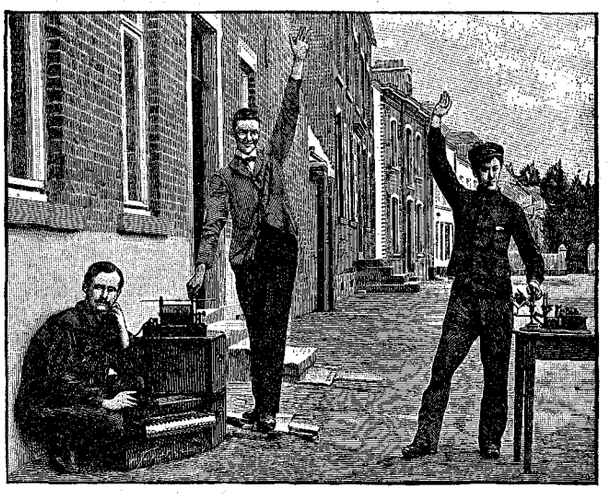
"We may suppose that the waves, by making the neurons approach or withdraw from each other, make and break the nervous current of the brain, producing extra-currents in each case. The nerves serve as conductors, and the receiver is the face itself, which by its signs of fear shows, at least with nervous persons, the action of lightning.

"Without describing the numerous experiments of Mr. Collins, I will give his conclusions: 1. The electric waves sent out by lightning cause the neurons to approach each other. 2. The substance of the brain acts as a coherer, both in life and death. 3. Fear of lightning is due to the action of the electric waves on the brain. 4. The electric waves propagated by the disruptive discharge of lightning may produce characteristic injuries followed by death.

"These facts are interesting both to experts in wireless telegraphy and to humanity in general.

"From this point of view, the waves of high frequency that have great penetrating power should be replaced by those of low frequency, such as are obtained by the discharge of Leyden jars (the Braun system), or, better still, by the system of alternating currents, without sparks, advocated by Lieutenant Concelet and the writer.

"But there is another point of view that deserves our attention, in regard to Mr. Collins's experiments and results. As *The Electrical World* remarks, the phenomena announced by



WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY WITH HUMAN BODIES AS ANTENNÆ.

Mr. Collins are of a nature to throw light on the theory of telepathy. Certainly one would scarcely expect to see 'telepathy,' or transmission of thought to a distance, touched upon here. The remark is only incidental; but, as scientists are tending to admit the possibility of this psychic phenomenon, it is interesting to try to explain it. Wireless telegraphy has already been appealed to as an analogous phenomenon. The experiments of Mr. Collins give a certain standing to this hypothesis. According to the investigations that we have just described, it is evident that transmission from brain to brain may take place at a distance as in wireless telegraphy. One of the brains sets in action nerve-waves. The other receives the waves as in the wireless receiver, by throwing the neurons into contact. Here again is only hypothesis, but it has a certain value after the experiments of Mr. Collins. As usual the future will have the last word on the subject."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

An Electrical Rat-Trap.—Under this heading a curious electrical tale is unfolded in *The Electrical Review* (August 23). The story, which is told in the words of an expert in electrical construction, runs as follows: An underground cable system for supplying light by means of a 2,000-volt alternating-current system had been installed in an Ohio town. Shortly after the plant was put into operation there began to be trouble with the line, which appeared and disappeared periodically for a month without apparent cause. "By this time," says the narrator, "one of the lines began to show considerable leakage, and I tried to locate the trouble, which work, however, was interrupted by the dynamo starting up. That night, however, our regular chronic trouble came on again and this time remained on instead of clearing itself as the others had done, and a quick opening of switches showed that it was on the same circuit we had tested during the day. Well, we kept the circuit going until morning, and then we started out to find the trouble. By very careful testing we soon traced it to a certain rather old factory building. Going inside we tested the transformer, but that was all right, but there was a ground between the transformer and the street, so that we followed the primary cables in that direction, which passed through an unused coal and junk room. As soon as we entered the place, which it seems no one else ever thought of doing, we were greeted by an odor that was suffocating, and near the pipe entrance leading to the street we found a pile of decomposed and decomposing rats. We called the janitor, got them out of doors as quickly as possible, and then the cause of the trouble was plainly apparent, for every rat was more or less burned. But how? Going back to the cellar

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we found one rat still lying across our cables, burned to a crisp. Looking at the cables again we found them gnawed through in more than a dozen different places. Now what had induced those rats to climb up there and gnaw through that lead cable and electrocute themselves? I put this question to a naturalist who lived in the city, who explained it by saying that probably the rats, being very keen of hearing, had noticed a slight hum from the alternating-current cables, and, imagining that the pipes contained running water, gnawed through the lead sheathing and rubber insulation until they reached the copper wire, when they would be killed, and, without making even a sound to warn others, drop to the floor below."

ELECTRIC PRODUCTION OF SLEEP.

A METHOD of producing sleep and local anesthesia by means of electric currents has been devised by a French physicist, M. Leduc. The following abstract of this method, which was originally described by the author before the Paris Academy of Sciences, appears in *The Electrical World and Engineer* (September 13):

"Continuous current is used, from an accumulator, with a small resistance in the circuit. A non-inductive interrupter, giving 150 to 200 breaks per second, is inserted in the circuit. A moist electrode is placed on the animal's shaven head and another on the back near the tail. The electromotive force is rapidly increased till the animal shows generalized contraction and respiration is stopped. The current is then reduced to about 5 milliamperes, with 12 to 30 volts. Respiration then sets in again and the animal sleeps a profound and tranquil sleep. It lasts as long as the current is continued. 'As soon as it stops, the animal wakes up and jumps about with every sign of delight, and no evil consequences appear to result.' If the current is not first brought to the point at which respiration stops, some agitation is displayed, such as is seen in the administration of chloroform. A similar current applied to the root of a human nerve, such as the median of the wrist, gives rise to complete anesthesia of the region innervated, accompanied by a prickling sensation, which is not painful."

Says the same journal, in commenting editorially on this discovery:

"As the authority for these statements is not a newspaper writer but a French physicist of authority, the matter takes on a real interest. It is true that the apparatus necessary is somewhat formidable, and that in the case of the animals experimented on, the first step consisted in producing apparent death, from which the subject was resuscitated to the intermediate stage of slumber. But even this condition would not deter one so afflicted with insomnia as to render any remedy, however heroic, the lesser evil. As insomnia is the result of a disturbance of the nerve-centers, it appears reasonable that a titillation properly set up by an interrupted current at such centers should have some effect, and perhaps a tranquillizing one; but whether it could be one oft repeated or have a permanent curative power is a matter for neurologists rather than physicists to pass judgment upon, and the verdict of the former will be awaited with interest."

Speed Trial of the "Arrow."—It is charged by *The Scientific American* (September 20) that the trials said to have demonstrated that Mr. Flint's steam-yacht *Arrow* is the swiftest craft in the world were carelessly and "amateurishly" made and have no scientific value. Says this journal, editorially:

"The trial was purely spectacular, and possesses no practical value. When we consider that the *Arrow*, in spite of the blundering by which her steam was allowed to run down over the latter part of the course, came so near to achieving her designed speed of forty knots an hour, we can not but feel that it is a pity that the vessel was not sent over the course for several consecutive runs, and given an opportunity to prove whether she was capable of a sustained burst of speed on a continuous run of five or six miles. Her trial would thus have taken rank, as a test of speed, with the trials of the torpedo-boat destroyers, among which vessels she should rightly be classed. Indeed, it can not be looked upon as anything but a distinct loss to the scientific world that the trials of the *Arrow* were not carried out in the scientific manner which characterized the trials of her predecessor, the *Ellide*. In the case of that vessel a most careful test was made of the performance of the engines and boilers during various runs, from a moderate speed up to her highest speed of over thirty-four knots an hour. Indicator cards were taken and a thorough analysis of the performance of the engines was made. In the case of the *Arrow*, on the other hand, except for the care with which the time was taken, the trial seems to have been carried out in a very amateurish way. Not a single indicator card was taken, and a fine opportunity was lost for securing data which would have been of the greatest interest to the engineering world."

Temperature of Insects.—From measurements made by P. Bachmetjew and published in a monograph in Leipsic, we learn that the temperature of an insect may be varied within wide limits, without doing harm to the insect. When the insect is at rest, the temperature is generally nearly that of the surrounding air. As this rises, the temperature of the insect also rises, but it never exactly reaches the limit except in cases of partial paralysis. When the insect moves, its temperature rises rapidly, only to fall again at once when exercise ceases. As for low temperatures, when the body contains −0.5° C. (31° F.) the insect remains immovable; it does not begin to move its wings until about +12° C. (53° F.) and buzzing does not take place till 20° C. (68° F.) has been reached. The degree of heat that an insect will bear does not exceed, in the species examined by the writer, about 113° F. The insect is agitated and shows signs of inquietude at about 104° F. and at 113° F. it dies. This is practically the same temperature that is fatal to plants. The writer of a notice in the *Revue Scientifique* goes on to say that the results at which M. Bachmetjew arrives in regard to the minimum temperature compatible with life are somewhat surprising. Different species succumb to very different temperatures, and with many of them the temperature of the liquids of the body can be lowered far below the freezing-point without solidifying. The normal freezing-point of the fluids is lower with females than with males. The critical point (or abnormally low freezing-point) is lower at the second trial than at the first, but at the second it is near the normal freezing-point, as is also the case with feeble individuals.—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

SCIENCE BREVITIES.

A RUSSIAN ophthalmologist affirms, says the *Revue Scientifique*, "that, contrary to generally received opinion, the electric light is less prejudicial to the sight than the other varieties of artificial light. He bases this affirmation on the fact that diseases and affections of the eye are directly proportional to the frequency of winking. Now he has shown that winking occurs with candlelight 6.8 times per minute; with gaslight 2.8 times; with sunlight 2.2 times, and only 1.8 times with the electric light."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

"FROM experiments recently conducted by Prof. John Trowbridge of Harvard it is pretty clearly demonstrated," says *Popular Mechanics*, "that lightning never strikes the surface of the ocean. He experimented with electric sparks six feet in length with a view of voltaizing water for the purpose of obtaining a strong spectrum of water vapor. He found that his sparks of high electromotive force, and as far as possible resembling lightning, always refused to strike the surface of the water, and passed, instead, to the edge of the vessel containing it. He also found it extremely difficult to pass powerful sparks from one stream of water to another. One interesting conclusion which the professor draws is that 'it does not seem probable that lightning discharges pass through regions in the air of heavy rainfall.'"

FROM study and investigations of borax and boric acid as food preservatives, Dr. Victor C. Vaughan and William H. Veenhoer draw the following conclusion as stated in *American Medicine*: "(1) The use of borax and boracic acid as preservatives in butter and cream is justified by both practical results and scientific experimentation. One-eighth of one per cent. of borax or boric acid delays the souring of cream at ordinary room temperature for about twenty-four hours, and when the preservative is increased to 0.25 per cent., another day elapses before souring takes place, and 0.5 per cent. will further delay the souring. (2) The dusting of the surfaces of hams and bacon which are to be transported long distances with borax or boric acid, not exceeding 1.5 per cent. of the weight of the meat, is effective and not objectionable from a sanitary standpoint. (3) Meat thus dusted does not become slimy, because the preservative prevents the growth of aerobic peptonizing micro-organisms."

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THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

FORTY MILLION DOLLARS FOR RELIGION.

AT the beginning of the twentieth century, an interdenominational movement was organized in England and this country for the purpose of raising $50,000,000 as a special fund to be devoted to various projects for the furtherance of religion, such as the payment of church debts, home missionary work, the endowment of religious institutions, etc. *The Church Economist* (New York), which has been making an investigation into the present condition of this fund, finds that about $40,000,000 has already been raised. "If it be true that 'money talks,'" comments the Chicago *Tribune*, "then it is talking in a most convincing way as to the great interest at present in the cause of religion and the fundamental prospect of the churches."

Fully half of this great total, declares *The Church Economist*, was raised in this country, the Methodists North alone claiming $17,000,000. The Canadian Methodists and Presbyterians, each of which bodies set out to raise $1,000,000, have collected respectively $1,250,000 and $1,430,000. The English Wesleyans have secured $4,500,000; and the English Congregationalists $3,312,000. Congregationalists in Wales have raised $860,000; in Australia $415,000. *The Church Economist* continues:

"The United Methodist Free Churches of England undertook to raise 100,000 guineas, and within two years raised 104,000. Baptists of Great Britain and Ireland placed their stint at $1,250,000, and have now a little more than $1,000,000 in hand. Calvinistic Methodists aim at $500,000, and have $400,000 of it. Bible Christians aimed at $125,000, have raised it, and have paid church debts amounting to $100,000 and more. A large part of the money raised by British Baptists goes to a sustentation fund. This fund is a common purse, out of which every Baptist minister in Great Britain and Ireland, whether in rich church or poor, only so he be in actual pastoral charge, shall receive a fixed minimum salary, uniform to everybody. The wealthier churches are at liberty to add to this mimimum salary as much as they please, but whenever they add enough to make the total salary exceed $750 a year they must pay on such additional sum a graduated income tax to the sustentation or central fund of 25 to 35 per cent. The plan is that in use for fifty years or more in the Free Church of Scotland, is devised on the ground that the strong should help the weak, and it works well.

"A large part of the $4,500,000 raised by the Wesleyans of England is to go for the purchase of the old aquarium in London. This is located within a stone's throw of Westminster Abbey. It is to be converted into a Wesleyan church house, to be the headquarters of the Wesleyans of the world. The Rev. F. B. Meyer said a fortnight since that the purchase of the aquarium and the conversion of it means much, not alone for Methodism in England, but also for the whole Free Church movement."

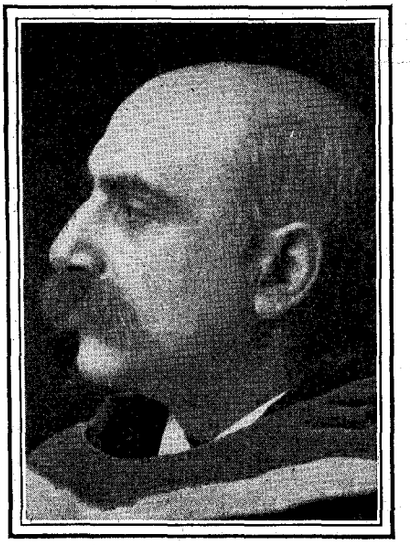
Fears have been expressed that these special funds would injure the regular activities of the churches, but *The Church Economist* declares that such has not been the case. It says on this point:

"As acute a situation as anywhere was produced in the Methodist Church in this country between the Twentieth Century Fund Commission and the Missionary Society. The latter felt that missions ought to be included, but the bishops did not include them. The society then appealed to the churches for an increase of missionary offerings to $2,000,000, and lately devised an Emergency Fund scheme. The society's income, while it has not increased, has not decreased either, the fluctuation being under $15,000. Yet Methodists North have raised to date $17,000,000 of their $20,000,000 stint. As a rule, figures of all societies being before us, receipts are to day larger than ever before, and hardly a society here or abroad but is out of debt, a condition that has not obtained in many years."

The Boston *Herald* devotes a leading editorial to these "impressive" figures, and comments:

"This is an enterprise in religious benevolence the like of which has never been known before, and a wonderful testimony to the voluntary consecration of wealth to religious uses that will be held as an example for all time. We suppose there is no doubt that substantially the whole amount named will be obtained within a reasonable period. . . . The really remarkable showing is that, while these immense, extraordinary contributions have been gathered in for specific uses, the regular contributions for church and mission support appear to have been kept up without substantial diminution. The twentieth-century gifts thus appear as to be verily extraordinary thank-offerings, as one might say, out of the abundance of prosperity and devotion."

LEO WISE,
Editor of *The American Israelite*.



EMIL G. HIRSCH,
Editor of *The Reform Advocate*.

EDITORS OF RELIGIOUS PERIODICALS.—XIV.

A CHRISTIAN LOBBYIST.

A UNIQUE calling is pursued in Washington by the Rev. Dr. Wilbur F. Crafts, the superintendent of the National Reform Bureau. Dr. Crafts calls himself "A Christian Lobbyist," and he deserves the credit, according to a correspondent of the New York *Evening Post* (September 6), "of having discovered, as it were, the latent power of the religious people in this country, chiefly the membership of the evangelical churches, and of devising means of applying that power to the wheels of current legislation, with results which have been striking." The same writer continues:

"The National Reform Bureau has established what corresponds to a mercantile agency concerning the leading people in every town in the United States, except that their religious status instead of their financial capital and resources is the subject of the work. Old telephone books have been secured of every town in the United States having a telephone system, and these books have a large share of the people of prominence on their rolls. This is the nucleus of the index. Then, through trusted confidential helpers in each town, the names are checked off with signs showing what each individual can be depended on to do. Perhaps one man will be decidedly irreligious, and not interested in [political] reforms, but, for personal or

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family concerns, may be greatly agitated over the question of temperance. The same may be true with divorce legislation, and with Sunday questions of all kinds. The bureau has twelve lines of work, but it does not limit its requests for assistance to persons who happen to sympathize with it in all of its lines. Of course, the records show a large number of names as in favor of everything."

Dr. Crafts prints a little quarterly through which he communicates with five thousand dues-paying members of his organization. He keeps in touch not only with the Congressmen themselves, but with their constituents. He sends out tens of thousands of leaflets yearly, organizes movements of protest against obnoxious measures, and inspires petitions and resolutions. Says the writer in *The Evening Post*:

"The Congressman who is 'shaky' on any vital measure finds himself deluged with communications. Perhaps the churches in his district adopt resolutions which are forwarded to him. Petitions from the Woman's Christian Temperance Unions are hastily transmitted. And there is no overestimating the influence of such things on the congressional mind. . . . Senator Blackburn, of Kentucky, once said to Dr. Crafts: 'Why, you have put my whole State in a turmoil over this matter. I would wager that I have got as many as twenty letters about it.' Since twenty votes would not be a large percentage in Kentucky, the impression which a few letters make can not be better illustrated.

REV. DR. WILBUR F. CRAFTS.

"A few years ago during the congressional recess all of the wise men of this latitude were habitually ridiculing the idea that Congress could take any action regarding the duly elected representative from the State of Utah. These wise men went into discussions of the constitutional phases of the question, and of how impossible it would be to do anything consistent with our fundamental law and the rights under it of a sovereign State. Any man who ventured to dissent from this prediction had but one argument: 'Do not forget Southern Presbyterianism. Brigham H. Roberts must look to his Democratic associates of the South for support, if he is to have any, but they can not forget the rugged Presbyterianism of a large share of their constituents.' The prediction was entirely sound. There was little constitutional ground for throwing Mr. Roberts out, but he had to go, and this very Reform Bureau played no small part in bringing that result to pass."

The Bureau gives a large part of its effort to temperance measures, and is at present working on bills to prohibit the sale of liquor at immigrant stations and in all government buildings. It claims to have secured forty-nine acts of government during its existence. The writer declares:

"Seven bills have been passed as drawn by the Bureau and introduced at its request, including the new and drastic divorce law of the District of Columbia, which will seemingly compel the establishment of a divorce colony at Chevy Chase, across the Maryland line. Others are the new divorce law in the Territories, the anti-canteen law, the resolution proposing a treaty to prevent the sale of intoxicants and opium to native races of the South Seas, and the Sunday-closing amendment to the St. Louis fair bill. The Bureau, by similar activities, doubtless prevents the passage of such legislation that might otherwise get through."

Dr. Crafts established the Bureau in Washington in 1895. It occupies a house near the Capitol, "which has been turned into a workshop, where an immense mass of newspaper clippings have been gathered, bearing on the questions with which the Bureau concerns itself." Recently a field secretary, the Rev. O. R. Miller, has been added to the staff, and in other ways the work of the Bureau is growing.

A BUDDHIST HYMNAL.

MR. ALBERT J. EDMUNDS, of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, has translated into English an anthology of Buddhist devotional poetry, bearing the title "Dhammapada" ("Path of Virtue"). These ancient verses can be traced back to the utterances of Gotama and his disciples, and are gathered from early hymns by monks and from the popular poetic proverbs of India. They were recited in Buddhist monasteries, from Ceylon to Afghanistan, for four hundred years, until, about 40 B.C., they began to be transcribed; at first in Ceylon alone, but afterward wherever the Buddhist religion became current. The poems are rendered into archaic and poetic English, and give a most intimate glimpse of the Buddhist philosophy. They cover every human relation, and bear such simple titles as "Happiness," "Anger," "The Heart," "Oneself," "The World," and "The Way." Many of the Christian maxims find their counterpart here. There is the injunction—

> Do as you would be done by;
> Kill not nor cause to kill;

and, again, we read:

> Overcome anger with kindness,
> Overcome evil with good,
> Overcome meanness with a gift,
> Ay, and a liar with truth.

The dominant feeling, however, is one of contemplation and of self-containedness. "The best of doctrines is passionless," we are told, and "the earnest, meditative man obtains an ample joy." The Buddhist ideal is probably best indicated by such lines as these:

> Rapt, blameless, settled, with his duties alone,
> Without depravities, the highest goal attained,
> Him do I call a Brahman.
>
> For whom by body, speech, and mind
> No misdemeanor is,
> In these three points restrained,
> Him do I call a Brahman.
>
> Whoso when every fetter is cut off,
> Doth tremble not,
> From ties escaped, unfettered,—
> Him do I call a Brahman.
>
> Whoso, tho innocent, endures abuse,
> Yea, stripes and bonds—
> Patience his power, and power his army—
> Him do I call a Brahman.
>
> Among the intolerant tolerant,
> Among the violent extinct,
> Ungrasping among those who grasp,—
> Him do I call a Brahman.
>
> The human yoke renounced,
> The yoke divine transcended is,
> Yokeless of every yoke:
> Him do I call a Brahman.
>
> Delight renounced, and undelight,
> Cold, with substrata gone,
> The Hero, who hath mastered every world:
> Him do I Brahman call.

The London *Academy and Literature* (September 6), in a review of this "Buddhist Classic," comments as follows:

"In these Buddhist doctrinal hymns there is no speculation, no argument, no uncertainty, no adventurous flight into the unknown. The gospel is a gospel of seclusion and calm. . . . The beasts are tamed for ordered action, man for inaction. It is a negation of the will to live, so that, all bodily desires being extinct, the individual soul may cease to endure any further transmigrations, and be absorbed in the universal soul. This is to attain Nirvâna, and it is precisely against this that the Western mind, nurtured upon another creed, revolts. There is no such

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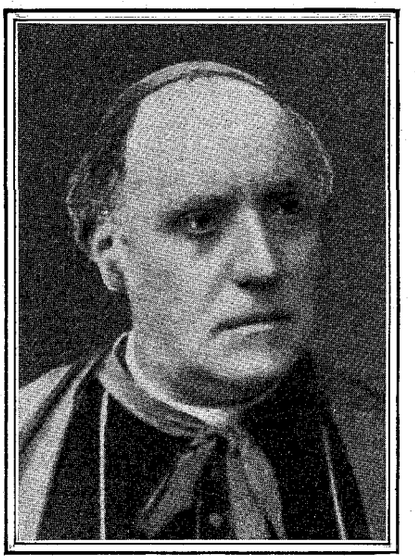
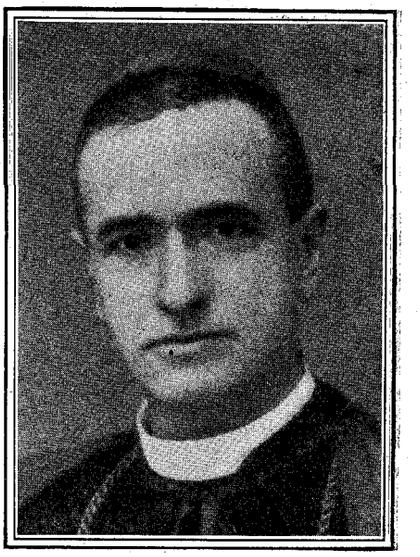
MGR. FALCONIO,
Apostolic Delegate to the United States.



MGR. GUIDI,
Apostolic Delegate to the Philippine Islands.



MGR. RINALDINI,
Nuncio at Madrid.

NEW PAPAL REPRESENTATIVES.

word as God in the 'Dhammapada.' Man seeks no help from without; still less is he pursued by that heavenly lover who will win him in spite of himself. There is no salvation by faith here, no encouragement to propagandism and the missionary spirit:

> As the bee, hurting not the flower,
> Its color and its fragrance,
> Flieth away with the nectar,
> So let a sage live in a village.
>
> Not others' ways perverse,
> Nor others' done or undone deed,
> But his own deeds
> Done and undone must he regard.

There is no clarion appeal of salvation for all men; rather the elect constitute an aristocracy which is in the world, but not of it:

> The crowds are quite contented with phenomena;
> Beyond phenomena the Perfect Ones.

We are too far West for the absolute doctrine of passionlessness, and there is not enough in these hymns of lyrical fervor, of eager naturalization. But Mr. Edmunds has done his best; his version is scholarly and good, and the explanatory notes few and always helpful. Sometimes the simple directness of his language could not be improved, as in Buddha's cry of enlightenment:

> Having myself supremely understood,
> Whom shall I teach?"

In an introduction to the book Mr. Edmunds pays an eloquent tribute to these "Dhammapada" verses. "If ever an immortal classic was produced upon the continent of Asia," he declares, "it is this." He writes further:

"Perhaps it is too ambitious a wish to hope to naturalize in English this Buddhist Holy Writ, as the King James version has naturalized the Christian; but if I fail some one else will succeed. No trite ephemeral songs are here, but red-hot lava from the abysses of the human soul, in one of the two of its most historic eruptions. These old refrains from a life beyond time and sense, as it was wrought out by generations of earnest thinkers, have been fire to many a muse. They burned in the brains of the Chinese pilgrims, who braved the blasts of the Mongolian deserts, climbed the cliffs of the Himalayas, swung by the rope-bridge across the Indus where it rages through its gloomiest gorge, and faced the bandit and the beast, to peregrinate the Holy Land of their religion, and tread in the footsteps of the Master. Verses were graven on the walls of august temples at the command of Hindu emperors who abolished capital punishment, mitigated slavery, and established hospitals for men and animals, under the sway of this marvelous cult; and by Ceylon monarchs whose ruined reservoirs, as large as lakes, astonish us among the wonders of antiquity. And to-day, after twenty centuries of Roman and Christian culture, they have won the admiration of Europeans and Americans in every seat of learning, from Copenhagen to the Cambridges, and from Chicago to St. Petersburg."

CHRISTIAN WRITERS ON THE JEWISH PROBLEM.

INTEREST in the Jewish problem, stimulated by the Zionist movement, has been even more intense and general of late by reason of the restrictive policy steadily pursued by Rumania and Russia toward their Jewish citizens. The action of the United States in the case of Rumania may or may not have immediate effects, but it has given an impetus to the discussion of the right solution of the problem of the future of the ancient race. A recent symposium on Zionism from the standpoint of European Christians (statesmen, authors, professors, etc.) is a timely contribution to this discussion. It appeared in a Russian review, *Rousskaye Misl* ["Russian Thought"], and has been widely commented upon in the Russian press.

Among those who have expressed definite opinions on the remedy presented by Zionism are: Lord Salisbury; Leon Bourgeois, ex-Premier of France; Professor Heman, of Basle University; Maxim Gorky, Korolenko, Russian novelist and editor, and several other writers of note. A few of these expressions are quoted in the subjoined translation:

Lord Salisbury: "Zionism is destined to succeed, in spite of the opposition it encounters. The Jews are capable of establishing a model government in Palestine, and raising the commerce of Asia Minor to an unprecedented height. If but forty per cent. of the Jews were converted to the project, it would become an assured reality. There is no reason why the Sultan should object to the establishment of an autonomous Jewish government within his dominions. There is enough energy and perseverance in the race that has resisted oppression for 2,500 years to accomplish the purposes pursued by Zionism."

Ex-Premier Bourgeois: "The Jewish nation is too individual, too dissimilar, to other nations, to lose itself in assimilation. Zionism is essentially war upon Antisemitism—a phenomenon even more injurious to the dominant nations than the Jews themselves, for it has a demoralizing effect, fostering hatred and checking the growth of the liberal spirit. The Jews are now reasserting themselves as a new-born nation and vigorously proclaiming their status as one. We may expect much from them, as they possess much intellectual power. Zionism is to be hailed as the solvent of Antisemitism, which will lose its *raison d'être* with the unification and rehabilitation of the scattered and oppressed race."

Professor Masarik, of Paris: "Zionism commands my sym-

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pathy, and I value it much more than I do what is called nationalism in modern France. It is a progressive movement, a resurrection, and promises to improve our whole civilization."

Prof. F. Heman, of Basle: "If the Jews, with their glorious and historic past, abandoned their national aspiration, it would be tantamount to the suicide of a nation. They not only have the right, but are in duty bound to struggle for the restoration of their national integrity. Zionism is no idle dream. History shows other instances of rebirth and revivification of apparently dead nations, and why should not this be possible for so richly dowered a people as the Jews? Their case would be hopeless if they attempted violent and warlike methods of recovering their own, but as their method is pacific and moral, success is not at all impossible."

Maxim Gorky: "I have profound sympathy with the Jewish people—great in their suffering; I bow before the strength of their spirit, bold and unconquerable in spite of ages of injustice. There is red, ardent blood in the veins of this people, and while Zionism may be Utopian, the fact that it has taken hold and aroused enthusiasm is to me a welcome sign of vigor, reality, life, idealism. With all my heart do I wish them to devote themselves to this high, great task, and to overcome meanness, baseness, and iniquity."

N. K. Michailowsky, Russian philosopher, critic, and editor: "It seems to me that the realization of the ideal of Zionism would require such vast material resources as could never be actually controlled. It also seems to me that it is not desirable that Europe should lose so gifted and energetic an element of her population as the Jews constitute."

V. Korolenko, novelist and publicist: "Zionism is an alluring dream, and the whole question is one of feasibility. Usually, the establishment of a nation or government follows the creation of a society in a given country. First colonization by immigration, then a long course of preparation for autonomy, and finally an independent nation—this is the order of national evolution. In this case it is, however, proposed to reverse the order—to acquire territory, secure political rights and a national status, and then gather the people to fill the ready-made political form, as it were, and to develop according to a prescribed rule. Besides, it would be necessary to reckon with the narrow, one-sided character of the Jewish social constitution. Their genius is predominantly financial, and a government requires more than that. These difficulties are formidable, even if the international, political obstacles to Zionism be conceded to be surmountable."

Many others contribute to the symposium, and but few oppose Zionism either on ideal or practical grounds, tho none display the slightest leaning toward Antisemitism. The Antisemitic press of Russia scoffs at Zionism as a fraud and means of benefitting a few vain agitators, while frankly wishing that a solution *were* possible.—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

A PLEA FOR PULPIT SENSATIONALISM.

THE charge of sensationalism is almost always felt to be derogatory to a minister's calling, and few are willing to plead guilty to it. It has come to be regarded as a worse charge than that of heresy, declares a recent writer, since the title of heretic sometimes carries with it as a redeeming feature the implication of scholarship. At least one clergyman, however, the Rev. E. H. Byington, takes the view that the popular feeling in regard to sensationalism is unjust and unwarranted. He says (in the Boston *Congregationalist*, September 3):

"A sensationalist is one whose preaching is so announced and so presented as to attract the attention of the public, to arouse interest, to produce a sensation in the community, which shall cause men to discuss on the streets what is being said in the pulpit; something unique, interesting, startling. This is one of the great needs of the day."

It is an undeniable fact, continues Mr. Byington, that great numbers, especially of men, do not attend church. Duty does not bring them, and they do not find the themes of the pulpit attractive or interesting. How is it possible to draw such men into a church unless their curiosity is aroused, or they are attracted and interested in some way? The writer continues:

"To secure their attention we must advertise with letters of invitation sent to their homes; or by cards, posters, and handbills; or through the newspapers. Advertising in the religious column is somewhat questionable. These are read by the church people, and anything that is particularly attractive simply draws from other churches. Place your advertisement in that part of the paper which appeals most to the non-churchgoing element you desire to reach—on the page devoted to the theater, or to sports, or to literature, or to bargains, as the case may be. Let your advertisement consist of a few words in large, bold type, phrased so as to interest the men you are after. . . . . .

"Of course judgment should be used. The form of sensationalism should be adapted to the community. If you are in a book-reading community, preach a series on the popular books of the day; if music is prominent, weave sermon and music into a dramatic form; if in a manufacturing community, visit the factories and let them supply themes and illustration; if the people read nothing but newspapers, preach on the topics of the day; if evolution is in men's minds, base sermons on that. Pack sermons with gospel truth, but shape them and phrase them so that they will appeal to the indifferent."

Mr. Byington proceeds to give some definite instances of the kind of sensationalism in which he believes:

"Once, when preaching in a locality where saloons were plenty, I advertised a series of sermons to men, one of which bore the title 'The Snake on the Man's Hand.' Had I announced a temperance sermon, the drinking-men all would have been absent; but, as it was, many came. I pictured as graphically as I could Paul's shipwreck, ending with the flinging of the viper back into the fire. In applying it, I closed with a comparison of the viper and drink, and pleaded with them to fling from their hands the cup. It was sensationalism, both in the advertising and the preaching, but it did more good than all the non-sensational temperance sermons I ever preached. At another time a sermon was advertised thus, 'Fire! Fire! Fire! a Sermon Illustrated with Fire.' The men I wanted were there. The church was darkened, and before me burned a blue ten-inch flame. This represented trouble, and the placing of different objects in it illustrated the effect of adversity on different characters. It was sensational, as illustrated sermons usually are; but it gave me a chance to preach the gospel truth to men who otherwise would not hear any of it. I have traced more conversions to my Sunday-evening stereopticon sermons on the life of Christ than to any others I ever preached."

The argument is often made that only a small proportion of those attracted by such methods continue their attendance. "Still all hear some truth," observes Mr. Byington, "and if some of them remain in touch with the church, it is a victory that is worth the battle. That some of those thus attracted become regular attendants and some become faithful Christians has been my experience and that of most who practise sensational methods." The writer concludes:

"Sensationalism is Biblical. See Jonah marching through the streets of Nineveh. Elijah was tremendously sensational on Mount Carmel. Let a minister tear a Bible in pieces or hurl it to the floor in passionate protest against some sin, and he would attain to the sensationalism of Moses. Pentecost was so sensational that the disciples were accused of drunkenness, and some of the Old-Testament prophets were extreme sensationalists in their preaching. We must not forget that Christ created a great sensation by the way he chose for the presentation of his gospel. He did not follow the manner of the religious teachers of the day, but stirred the whole country by his unusual and startling methods.

"My plea is for more sensationalism. Let each preacher study his field and determine in what way he best can startle, attract, impress the indifferent about him. Let him advertise as freely and as strikingly as the most successful, upright business man in the place. Let the churches not only permit, but urge their ministers to arouse a church-neglecting community by the use of dramatic and winning methods. If all about you attend church, then avoid sensationalism."

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FOREIGN TOPICS.

ASSAULTS UPON THE "OPEN DOOR."

WILL Russia make an attempt to reopen the Chinese question and disturb one of the fundamental principles of the settlement—the open door? There are reports that Manchuria, after all, has by a secret treaty been turned over to Russia, but the quasi-official St. Petersburg press continues to assert that the province is in good faith being evacuated by the Czar's troops, and, as compensation for this "disinterested concession," as it is termed, demands special trade privileges, in violation of the open-door principle. The *Novoye Vremya* has, indeed, in a series of articles, boldly attacked this principle, declaring it to be inimical to Russia and inconsonant with her permanent policy. These articles have attracted attention in Western Europe. In England, however, there is a group which advocates the rejection of that principle in South Africa, *The Saturday Review* saying that the Government ought to take "sensible steps to keep the new market for our own people" and to keep out American goods.

The *Novy Kray* ("*The New Country*"), of St. Petersburg, which devotes special attention to the problems of expansion and colonization, asks whether Russia means to secure special privileges in Manchuria, and answers:

"It would seem that this would be no more than justice, especially in a country that is within Russia's sphere of influence. The magnanimous action of the Emperor in withdrawing our troops from Manchuria deserves some return. What form can it take? There is but one—exclusive commercial privileges and special opportunities for our merchants and traders under the protection of the Government."

The *Novoye Vremya*, dealing more broadly with the open-door principle, not only in China, but in Persia, where Russia is gradually intrenching herself by means of railway and other concessions, writes:

"Seriously, what is this policy of open-doors? Neither more nor less than the liberty of any and every Power to invade an undeveloped, half-civilized country, and, thinking of nothing but gain, do whatever it sees fit regardless of consequences.

"In China the open-door politics caused the Boxer upheaval, and a similar result must follow in any country whose population is jealous of its customs, its religious beliefs, its general order of life, all of which are impudently violated by the enterprising pioneers of civilization."

What is the alternative? The paper answers that not all foreigners, not all Westerners, know how to deal with Asiatics and Orientals; that it is perfectly proper for those who have special sympathy and affinity for them to have exclusive opportunities of aiding them politically and industrially. Russia, it says, can not look with indifference upon a policy which threatens new disorder, new uprisings, new anti-foreign conspiracies in China, or which may, in Persia, create hatred and dread of all foreign influence. Let Persia be opened to all on the same terms, and foreign adventurers will at once begin to destroy, change, ride rough-shod over native practises and fixed habits. Not so, however, if Russia alone is allowed to develop that or any other Eastern country. To quote the final paragraph of the article:

"We, on the contrary, carry into the Orient the standard of Christian love and toleration, and history assigns to us the mission of planting this standard among the nations professing Islamism. Not for gain, not to create new markets for our goods, have we penetrated the wilderness of Central Asia. Our successes there, from the standpoint of the commercial civilizers, are quite insignificant; but they are permanent and stable. We have not excited in the tribes of Central Asia hatred and distrust of our motives; on the contrary, we have reconciled them to the Christian world, apparently so hostile to them, and have converted semi-savage nomads into loyal subjects of our Government."

Germany and England, concludes the paper, only seek trade and gain, and can never assimilate Chinese and Persians. Those who can should have sole access to undeveloped countries in Asia.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE EXTINCTION OF FINLAND.

FINLAND has been practically extinguished—except as a geographical expression—by the Czar's approval of a new scheme of laws for the grand-duchy. These laws sweep away the last of Finland's ancient rights and liberties. She can henceforth be regarded merely as a Russian department, with no other law than the will of the Czar. That will is represented by the present governor-general of Finland, Nicolai Ivanouttry Bobrikoff, a thoroughgoing believer in Russification. When the colonel of a Finnish regiment alluded to the law, Governor-General Bobrikoff is said to have replied: "I am your law."

Insight into the Finnish situation is afforded in an article in *The Outlook* (New York) from the pen of Herman Montague Donner. Mr. Donner is president of the Finnish-American Municipal League, and has been prominent in the movement to establish colonies of Finns in the United States. He can speak with authority on the subject of Finland, having been born there and belonging to a family prominent in its literary history. He says:

"The famous imperial manifesto of February 15, 1899, which, prepared with the utmost secrecy in St. Petersburg and forced upon the Finnish people with threats of violence and bloodshed in case of opposition, did away, with a single stroke of the Czar's pen, with all the sacredly guaranteed constitutional liberties of the Finnish nation; brought consternation and wailing and gnashing of teeth upon the unhappy country, whose spontaneous and mighty popular protest passed unheeded and scorned; and has formed the basis for continued acts of oppression and abuse on the part of the notorious Governor-General Bobrikoff and his minions. . . . . .

"Bobrikoff, a man of low origin and brutal antecedents, the perfect type of the gang-boss and the military bully, proceeded zealously with his program of Russianization. The Finnish governors of provinces were constantly interfered with through the medium of St. Petersburg, and then turned out of office on one flimsy pretext or another, and their places given to Russian creatures of the governor-general; those most contemptible of government devices, the twin systems of paid spies and *agents provocateurs*, were introduced among a people proud of their allegiance to law and order and imbued with a strong sense of personal honor and integrity; the press, an instrument of more general intelligence and weight than in either Germany or France, was effectively gagged by the suppression of four-fifths of the organs, Swedish especially; the right of public meeting was prohibited; even private gatherings were interfered with; the schools were compelled to include Russian in the curriculum, and educators of national reputation forced to resign on the most trivial pretenses to make way for subservient Russian tools."

The passive resistance of the Finnish people has greatly angered the Russian authorities. The young men have uniformly refused to present themselves for military service, and the country is being depopulated by an exodus to the United States:

"With this determined and universal opposition the authorities found themselves powerless to cope. Emigration took on alarming proportions; whole districts were ere long denuded of young men, and the fields were in consequence left idle and uncultivated, with the certain prospect of unheard-of hardship, famine, and suffering. At this time of writing the Finlanders are leaving their land at the rate of five hundred to eight hundred a week, the great majority of them embarking for the ports of Quebec and New York. The Russian authorities, who, singularly enough, appear to have overlooked this contingency, are at

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their wits' end how to grapple successfully with the problem; Bobrikoff, in particular, is reported to be furious beyond measure, and to be contemplating the forbidding of all emigration, tho he would in such case be in a position not unlike that of Canute bidding the waves retire."

Finnish newspaper opinion is suppressed by a rigid censorship, while the newly framed decrees are to do away with the judiciary system and free the police from all responsibility to any power but that of their superior officers. The *Finlandskaia Gaseta* (St. Petersburg) has alleged that the Finns are not in revolt and that only the impotent minority is creating trouble. But a correspondent of the London *Times* throws this light on the subject:

"The senate, now that all its more independent members have been dismissed, has become the reluctant tool of the St. Petersburg Government. It maintains that resistance is hopeless, and that the only course is to turn the cheek to the smiter and endeavor to move his compassion. If the Finns are only patient enough, it may be that the Czar will, sooner or later, see what a mistake his ministers are making in goading a loyal population into discontent. The senate's attitude is, however, that of an insignificant minority. The overwhelming majority of the Finns are far from cherishing any delusions as to the intentions of the Government, and they believe that any lull in the attack upon their liberties would only be temporary. They are convinced that their only chance of saving even a remnant of their rights is to offer a resolute opposition to every encroachment."

The Russian plea that the present Finnish policy is merely one of unification receives curt treatment from the *Indépendance Belge* (Brussels):

"Russian policy in Finland has gone counter to the purest national sentiment. It has been urged that the only aim is to give more unity to the empire. This is a laudable purpose. But the Russians should have had bestowed upon them the freedom enjoyed by the Finns. Unity should have been striven for along progressive and liberal lines and not in a spirit of deplorable reaction. This would have avoided revolt on the part of the Finns and at the same time disarmed the revolutionary movement in Russia, stopped secret plotting, and put an end to attempts upon the lives of officials in St. Petersburg. Will Nicholas II.—who has striven to be the Czar of peace and whose general political policy is most praiseworthy—not heed the voice of his people? Will he not free himself from the evil influence of those who surround him? Will he not assure to the peoples he rules over such peace and security as will redound to their greatness and prosperity?"—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

AN ALLIANCE OF FRANCE AND SPAIN.

FRANCE and Spain are said to be contemplating an alliance. Both Powers would gain much by such an arrangement, it is believed. France needs Spanish cooperation in the settlement of the Morocco problem, and the Government at Paris would be freed from the necessity of maintaining an army corps along the Pyrenees. Spain would terminate her isolation in Europe, and would gain economically by the development of her internal resources. The transfer of Jules Cambon, French ambassador, from Washington to Madrid, is pronounced a significant step. France rendered invaluable aid to Spain during her war with the United States. That aid was quiet, but effective. Viewing the subject from every point of view, *The Spectator* (London) thinks the alliance, if effected, would be a good thing for both France and Spain. Some Spanish papers, notably the *Liberal* (Madrid), oppose any idea of alliance. France is accused of having betrayed and befooled Spain for years past. The ministerial papers are reserved; but in Germany the idea that an alliance is under discussion has become general. Says the *Hamburger Nachrichten:*

"To what extent these international interests have been made the basis of practical discussion can not now be stated definitely. The governments concerned say emphatically that the matter of alliance has not been considered. But this is not very credible. It requires much simplicity to believe that the sudden arrival of Spanish envoys in Paris and London is purely accidental or that their many conferences with cabinet ministers are without significance. Nor is it to be supposed that the numerous discussions between members of the Spanish ministry and Silvela and other Conservatives relate to matters of indifference."

There is a grave reason for European concern at the prospect of an alliance between France and Spain. That grave reason is Morocco. On this subject a recent article in *The Fortnightly Review* (London) by Donald Mackenzie (a high authority on the topic) throws much light. He says:

"Morocco holds a peculiar position, both geographically and politically. It occupies the northwestern corner of Africa, on the very threshold of Europe, its northern coast facing England's stronghold of Gibraltar, and its eastern frontier bounded by the French colony of Algeria. The empire of Morocco is only what remains of the ancient and powerful Khalifate of the West, which at one time menaced the independence of the Continent of Europe. There is now hardly any trace left of its former glory. The natural wealth of the country is unbounded, and if only developed would make Morocco one of the richest countries of the world. The Sultan considers himself to be a mighty monarch. He is Commander of the Faithful, and has as such absolute control over the lives and property of his subjects; but for all that His Majesty practically only governs about one-half of his empire. Large tracts are populated by fierce and turbulent tribes, who set his governors and tax-gatherers at defiance. They only owe him religious allegiance, and this religious fanaticism is the sole link which holds this tottering fabric together."

But the European Powers are and have long been scheming against each other for control in Morocco. The country has suffered much in consequence. The same authority observes:

"There are three European Powers who are principally interested in Morocco, viz., England, France, and Spain. There are three main reasons why our country takes a deep interest in Morocco. Long ago we held Tangier as a British possession, since that period we have taken Gibraltar and made it perhaps the strongest fortress in the world. It has always been considered the key to the Mediterranean, and as it is partly provisioned from Morocco, on that account alone that country is of vital importance to us. Lastly we have had the bulk of its commerce pass through our hands, and altho not large, still it is worth holding. It ought to be stated to our credit that, whatever commercial advantages we have gained, we have shared them with other nations on the same footing as ourselves. Spain has very little commercial interest in Morocco, but she has always considered her political claims on that country to stand first. The Moors are the ancient foes of the Spaniards since the days that Ferdinand drove them from their last stronghold in Granada and confined them forever to their original home in Africa. From that period of their glorious history the Spaniards have always looked upon themselves as the heirs of the inheritance of the Sultan; on that account any interference on the part of any of the Powers with the independence of Morocco would be bitterly opposed by Spain, who, in my opinion, would not barter away her claim for any amount of dollars. . . . The commercial interest of France stands next to England, and she naturally avails herself of every possible measure to guard and promote that trade. Another question of great importance to France is the fact that the frontier of her colony of Algeria touches that of Morocco."

France has always been very considerate of Spanish claims to Morocco, says the *Indépendance Belge* (Brussels). Spain is not unmindful of the fact. But the Belgian paper thinks an alliance between the two countries should not be contracted in a hurry:

"It must not be overlooked that too much precipitation would compromise a policy of closer relations. The time has not yet come to speak of an alliance or to form with France and Italy that great Latin league whose influence is to predominate throughout the Mediterranean basin. Spain is half ruined. Spain is incapable of sustaining any general political policy. She

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must concentrate all her efforts upon her internal reorganization. She must aim at her own revival by first extending her economic relations with foreign countries. Not until then, not until she has acquired some degree of prosperity, should she dream of playing an international part and of taking rank among the great Latin nations."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL AND POLITICAL CRISIS IN AUSTRALIA.

A CRISIS of a complicated sort is becoming severe throughout Australia. The Premier of that vast commonwealth, Sir Edmund Barton, who recently offered his valuable opinion as to how the United States should be governed, is now to be afforded an opportunity of testing his statesmanship in his own land. The complications facing him are so many and so varied that a list of them would be a hard one to compile. The new constitution is not working to suit the Australians. The Senate is arrayed against the House. There is trouble in finding a governor-general to succeed the lord who resigned over a matter of personal expenses. The struggle precipitated by the need of selecting the commonwealth capital has grown most bitter. There is a vital Oriental immigration question, and the tariff threatens to wreck the ministry. Drought prevails in some states and discontent in all. Says *The Daily News* (London):

SIR EDMUND BARTON,
The Australian Premier whose ministry is threatened with overthrow.

"It is a trying ordeal for the Commonwealth, perhaps the most trying that it will ever be called upon to face. We must remember that this brand-new legislature, with its constitution modeled on the American pattern, has had to start housekeeping without a house of its own, and with only the barest furniture. The capital remains to be built. The federal court is not established, and the governor-general is on the way home, on account of an unfortunate misunderstanding. In a word, the Commonwealth is living amongst scaffolding poles, and condemned to legislate in an ever-present consciousness that everything is in the experimental stage, and that the organs of Government, which on paper look so authoritative, may break in the using.

"But the difficulties of the task of financial readjustment are enormously increased by the dispute which has come to a head between the Senate and the House of Representatives. The Senate happens to have a small free-trade majority, and it has used it to play havoc with the Government's proposals."

The constitutional way out of the present deadlock is indicated by our contemporary:

"The Senate's powers in respect to finance bills are clearly defined in the constitution of the Commonwealth, which deprives it of any power of origination or amendment, but empowers it to request the House of Representatives by message to omit or amend any provisions to which it takes exception. The Senate must then either pass the bill as sent up to it or reject it, and in the latter case the general provisions for avoiding a deadlock will come into effect. If each House after another attempt remains unyielding, a dissolution takes place, and, supposing the same thing to be repeated, the governor-general is empowered to convene a joint sitting of the members of both Houses, and the issue is decided by a majority of votes. The expedient is interesting and ingenious, but leisurely, and what is wanted now is a prompt way out of a difficulty which threatens to unsettle the whole continent."

The economic depression in Australia is attributed in some quarters to the radical legislation of the controlling labor element. Says a correspondent in the London *Times*:

"The 'right to work' is rapidly being expanded into a 'right to wages' with or without work. The state can not invent work fast enough for the thousands who have been taught to look to it for employment more remunerative and less onerous than can be offered to them by private enterprise; but it can, and is expected to, pay wages, and the wage-bill which the state has to meet is growing with alarming rapidity and entirely out of proportion to the value or usefulness of the work it represents. . . . A fact which can not fail to strike those who have followed closely the political life of Australia is the growing reluctance of the best men to enter politics. In the United States that reluctance is decreasing; in Australia it is increasing; and in Australia it is a far more serious mischief than in the United States, where misgovernment can not check the progress due to boundless resources, to immense private enterprise, and to a high standard of practical education. The resources of Australia are by no means boundless, many of her industries are necessarily precarious—the loss of sheep and lambs this year owing to the drought has alone been estimated at 40,000,000 head—and the standard of popular education is by no means satisfactory."

The "white Australia" cry is very loud. The labor element is determined to exclude the Kanakas, the Japanese, and the Chinese. The objection that tropical Australia must remain undeveloped if colored labor be excluded is scouted by the labor leaders. And Mr. John Douglas expresses a thoroughly "white Australia" view thus in *The Nineteenth Century* (London):

"It must always be remembered that sub-tropical Australia, the Australia of the Southern Australian states—of Southern Queensland, of New South Wales, and Victoria—will never consent, come what may, if I am any judge of public opinion, to the systematic introduction of colored labor into Northern Aus-

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tralia. They value their inheritance too highly to justify any such expectation. It may be pride, it may be prejudice, but I believe it to be a passionate conviction with the present inhabitants of Australia that the unexplored and uninhabited portions of their country shall be reserved for their own use, even tho they are included in the zone of the tropics; and when I say their own use I mean, of course, that they would desire that such territory should be occupied as Australia has hitherto been occupied—by men and women of their own kith and kin—and that the introduction of Eastern races must be subject to such limitations as they may please to impose."

HON. J. FORREST, Minister of Defense of the Commonwealth of Australia.

It will be apparent from all this that the Australian Premier has much discontent to face. The Sydney *Mail*, a leading exponent of Australian opinion, thinks the Premier should give way to the opposition by resigning. But *The Argus* (Melbourne), a ministerial organ, says the opposition dare not bring on a cabinet crisis, and that the House and Senate will yet be reconciled.

THE GERMAN GENERAL ELECTION.

THE electoral period for which the present German Reichstag was chosen expires next June. Unless the Agrarians carry their point, the general elections will be ordered to take place during the year 1903. The outlook for the imperial Government is a bad one. Members of the Reichstag are chosen by manhood suffrage for a period of five years. There are about four hundred members, who are called together every year. Their proceedings are public, but they receive no pay. The Reichstag chooses its own president. The leading political parties in the empire fall into three groups—Liberal (including National Liberals and Radicals), Conservative (including the Agrarian and "Junker" element), and Socialist. Somewhat apart from the rest stands the powerful Center, or Roman Catholic, party. The great hope of the Emperor's Government is derived from the confused turmoil among the parties. The tariff bill, however, has produced a highly irritated state of public opinion, and the political campaign is already the subject of discussion. As the Agrarian-Conservative *Kreuz Zeitung* (Berlin) says:

"Preparations for the next elections to the Reichstag fill the newspapers, notwithstanding the lull in the political season. In column after column of journalistic opinion the word is given: Get ready for the elections. Just how near they are, no one knows exactly. Even the party leaders and political agitators, who are as fond of a rest as anybody else, appear to be busy over the coming elections. The Radicals seem to be most energetic in perfecting their organization. They hope to make gains with the cry of 'bread tax.' They are ready to share the spoil with the Social-Democrats if a fair proportion of it be allotted them. The National Liberals are also bestirring themselves, but they do not seem at ease in their occupation of trying to sit upon two stools. The center party is unbroken. Its perfected organization assures it enduring and great control over the Roman Catholic population. Nor is the Clerical press remiss in uttering warnings that the elections are approaching. The Social Democrats have no need of such warnings. Their organization is prepared. So far as they are concerned, the elections could be held any day. They have already begun to put their candidates in the field. In these circumstances it is time for us Conservatives to be asking ourselves if we, too, are ready for the next elections."

The Conservatives are not prepared if the press opinion of Germany be any criterion. The Conservatives have made such blunders over the tariff and other questions, according to the *Vossische Zeitung* (Berlin), that they are seeking to have the elections deferred on a technicality:

"During the past few months a question has arisen as to when the term of the present Reichstag expires. Hitherto it has been generally assumed that the present Reichstag, having been born June 16, 1898, would die a natural death on June 16, 1903, unless its term of existence were ended sooner by an act of the Government. But some Agrarians feared that the passage of a higher tariff would be a more difficult feat after the new elections than it would be with the present Reichstag. They accordingly proceeded to inquire if the terms of the present deputies could not be prolonged until the higher duties were assured. Then was broached the theory that the legislative period did not begin with the day of election, but with the convening of the Reichstag."

This line of argument could be stretched considerably, and, if allowable, the elections need not take place until late in 1904. But the newspaper just quoted says such a notion is inadmissible, and the plea of the Agrarians for delay merely shows their dread of facing the people. The democratic *Frankfurter Zeitung* says public opinion in Germany is in a very aroused state:

"The unsatisfactory state of our whole domestic politics is responsible for the fact that the coming Reichstag elections are eagerly looked forward to. There is much agitation and discontent among our people. From the Löhning affair [resulting in the disgrace of a military man for marrying "beneath him"] to the officers' demonstration in favor of dueling; from the tariff bill to the food scarcity; from imperial interference with state parliaments to the question of ministerial responsibility in the empire, there is developing a regular series of varied grievances. The thinking citizen—there are, fortunately, some left—makes his comment inwardly on it all. The newspapers were probably never read with more interest than during the past few weeks. Whoever could see into the hearts and minds of the readers would note—above all party programs—a far-reaching unanimity of opinion. Satisfaction at the events of the day would certainly not have been apparent—rather a great degree of anger and indignation."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

POINTS OF VIEW.

SOCIALIST AND CLERICAL IN GERMANY.—A prominent Socialist in Germany has an article in the *Neue Zeit* (Stuttgart), a Socialist organ, urging the Social-Democratic party to attack the center (or Roman Catholic) party throughout Germany. The proposition finds favor among Socialist organs which think such a course would "weaken the priest's hold upon the South German peasant."

OUR NAVY AS A LAUGHING-STOCK.—European amusement at the tea party that interrupted the United States navy—or part of it—in a recent "war game" finds expression in sarcastic comment. *Punch* (London) notices the incident in these words: "The United States naval maneuvers were suddenly stopped to allow ladies to visit the flag-ship. This has aroused much indignation, which has only been allayed by the statement that this would not be permitted in actual warfare."

ALPHONSE XIII.'S TOUR OF SPAIN.—The young Spanish monarch has added immensely to his personal popularity by his trip through his kingdom, says the *Temps* (Paris). "Alphonse XIII. pleases by his frankness, vivacity, and cordiality. Despite the simplicity which the Queen-Mother so wisely made the rule of his education, it was to be feared that the young king might have acquired the stiffness and distant coldness affected by those reared in the old Castilian tradition. But nothing of the sort has been manifest."

BALFOUR "DOOMED."—M. Balfour will not long be Britain's Premier, says the London *Review of Reviews*. It expresses its opinion quite drastically: "Ministers are doomed, and if a general election were to take place at this moment the Unionist majority would disappear. Carlyle used to say that the millennium would come if the supreme scoundrel were well hanged. We have at least the consolation of knowing in this country that altho our supreme criminal in a political sense is not yet hanged, he is in the condemned cell awaiting execution."

THE "HEATHEN CHINEE."—"When the Chinaman," says the London *Times*, "comes into the presence of a white population, in a climate suited to their requirements and favorable to the full development of their energies, the most signal effect of his presence is to degrade the lowest class of the white community toward his own level, to lower wages by a very undesirable form and degree of competition, to reduce the standard of comfort, and, generally, he tends to become an element working for evil in the society into which he has been introduced, and to which he speedily becomes hateful. He is never absorbed into the general population around him, but is always an alien, worshiping strange gods, following strange customs, and believed to be addicted to the most degrading vices. His personal filth exceeds that of the lowest of European populations."

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NOTABLE BOOKS OF THE DAY.

THE PRETTY STORY VERSUS THE PAINFUL.

THE DESERT AND THE TOWN. By Mary Hallock Foote. Cloth, 5 x 7½ in., 313 pp. Price, $1.50. Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

THERE is a large class of readers who clamor for pretty stories, who do not want to read anything painful or harrowing. Development of character, originality, and all the rest of a thousand literary virtues are as nothing beside a gay plot and happy ending and a debonnaire heroine. This class of readers will not find "The Desert and the Town" to their mind.

MARY HALLOCK FOOTE.

It is a book written with consummate skill. The plot is an unusual one, but the whole book is in the minor key and the author has tortured her characters with a cruelty and refinement almost incredible.

It is rather an amusing trait of our reading public that the same people who will very likely think this latest story of Mrs. Foote's too sad to read, find no objection to tragedy if it be only translated from some foreign language. In the matter of morals the same rule holds. Our writers are constantly being warned by virtuous readers not to overstep certain limits; but all license is allowed a translation. The cry is apparently, "Let us keep our own literature pure, jolly, and vapid at all hazards, and let us import our stories of real life."

Mrs. Foote's book has every literary virtue save that it is neither funny nor silly, and it is hampered by the fact that it is not a translation.

The author has gone deep into our national character, and has rendered with a rather terrible grimness certain of its phases. What is derisively called "The New England conscience" always holds possibilities of tragedy. The various phases of this conscience Mrs. Foote has used as elements of her book. The story is not, however, one of unbroken gloom. In spite of the horrors of certain situations, the atmosphere is wholesome. The author does not dwell on morbid phases of her characters. She tells her readers about them with a calm impartiality that heightens the effect of reality which this strong story leaves with one. Seldom does one read a book wherein the author suppresses so entirely his or her own point of view in the presentation of characters. The style in which the story is told is clear and at times distinguished, and the manner of telling a tale that has so many tragic elements is singularly mild and unassuming.

Pretty stories have, of course, their place. It is well when people marry and live happy ever after. In fact, in "The Desert and the Town" the "love interest" is the bright side of the book. But it is well to remember that there exists tragedy even in this country. We are not all of us jocose all the time. There are other sides of life besides those we get in the comic papers. Not all old men in fiction can be David Harums mouthing out wise saws, and it is a matter for thanksgiving when we find a story that is strong and true, even if it makes us more inclined to cry than to laugh.

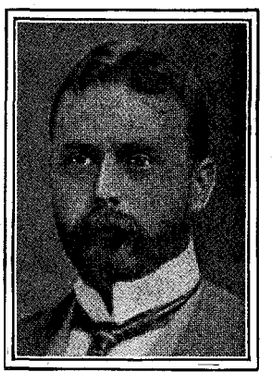
GILBERT PARKER'S TALES OF EGYPT.

DONOVAN PASHA AND SOME PEOPLE OF EGYPT. By Gilbert Parker. With frontispiece in color by Talbot Kelly. Cloth, 5 x 7¾ in., 392 pp. Price, $1.50. D. Appleton & Co.

SOON after the publication of Kipling's "Plain Tales from the Hills" there sprang up a crop of stories of Oriental life and character written in like style by other novelists. One writer, however, who was at the time enjoying experiences in the East even richer in literary possibilities than those of Anglo-Indian life, did not force his crop to take advantage of the writing market. It is only within the last five years that Gilbert Parker has given one by one to the magazines of this country and England his stories of Egypt, which were conceived during his first visit there in 1889, and elaborated in the course of no less than four subsequent visits.

These tales he has now gathered into book form, relating them to the personality of a character who appears in most of them—Donovan Pasha. As may be inferred from the name, this official is an Englishman in the service of the Khedive. It is therefore to be expected that he will have all the recklessness and astuteness which have been ascribed to the soldier of fortune from the days of Scott and Dumas to those of Anthony Hope and Richard Harding Davis; but the daredeviltry and prescience of Mr. Parker's hero are so uncanny that it requires the hint of a combination of Captain Kettle and Sherlock Holmes to express them.

Plausibility is given to the account of Pasha Donovan's marvelous abilities by representing him as deeply learned in Arabic. He disguises himself in the manner of Vambéry and becomes intimate with the most secret plots of that land of conspirators, and so, of course, is able to checkmate, at the last moment, the villainous design which gives plot to the particular story. The tales in which Donovan does not appear, while superior in point of character-study, are inferior in narrative interest. As an example of this may be cited the tale called, "All the World's Mad," which is an account of two Quakers, man and wife, who attempt to civilize Egypt. It is wholly pointless in plot, but the very pointlessness reveals the lesson which Mr. Parker is attempting to convey throughout the book—the impossibility of reforming the Orient save along the lines of least resistance. This is also the moral of the two most serious tales: "A Tyrant and a Lady," and "The Light of Other Days."



GILBERT PARKER.

Mr. Parker has thus in these tales of unequal merit been inspired by a worthy and genuine motive, which is also artistic in that it lends unity to the collection. The book is an earnest of a more serious novel on the same subject soon to be published by the author.

"A SPECIALIST IN SOULS."

LOVE AND THE SOUL HUNTERS. By John Oliver Hobbes. Cloth, 5 x 7½ in., 345 pp. Price, $1 50. Funk & Wagnalls Company.

MRS. PEARL MARY TERESA CRAIGIE, under the pen-name of John Oliver Hobbes, has forged rapidly to the front rank of present writers of fiction and drama. In a single decade she has written a baker's dozen of novels and plays each one of which has caught the eye and ear of the public and compelled the respectful attention of the leading literary and dramatic critics. As the granddaughter of an eminent New York clergyman, the daughter of a Boston millionaire, and the wife of an Englishman of high social standing (from whom she has since separated), the drawing-rooms of London were, from her arrival in England, open to her. Here she won instant success as a brilliant converser. As would be expected, her first books sparkled with epigram and repartee. They were criticized, however, as lacking in plot and situation. Mrs. Craigie, who is noted for her willingness to accept criticism and profit by it, set to work to remedy this defect. She applied herself to dramatic composition, and produced a number of plays which passed successfully the practical test of presentation at the leading theaters of London. One, "The Ambassador," is recognized as a classic of dramatic composition.

Within the last two years, Mrs. Craigie has returned to the writing of fiction. "Love and the Soul Hunters" is the novel over which she has taken the most ardent, as distinct from arduous, pains. The elevation of theme is especially to be commended. The subject is lifted out of that realm, supposed to be romance's own province, where the passions of sense have play. In the character of Prince Paul of Urseville-Beylestein, the "soul-hunter" of the book, we have a distinctly new creation in fiction—a libertine who differs from every one of his class from the rakes of Richardson to the heroes of Anthony Hope. The man who knows him best, his secretary, thus describes the Prince:

"JOHN OLIVER HOBBES."

"'He has charm, he has grace, he has youth, he has all the glamour of a romantic, almost tragic destiny; but he is a libertine. Oh, not the swashbuckler, the villain of novels, the Lovelace; he is a sentimental soul-hunter, a specialist in souls. He believes that he is in earnest, whereas he is as fickle as women are supposed to be and are not.'"

The Prince attempts the conquest of Clementine Gloucester, a young Anglo-American girl whose character is as subtly analogous to the Clarissa type, yet as refreshingly different therefrom, as his own is in relation to that of the Lovelace order of hero. Her absolute candor is her chief and most charming characteristic. To the Prince, endeavoring to persuade her to a morganatic marriage, she frankly confesses her love yet refuses his offer. He finds that her soul perches on heights inaccessible to his methods of stalking. It must be approached in the open.

This is the way adopted by Dr. Felshammer, the Prince's secretary,

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who is the other lover of Clementine. But he is the wrong man to practise it, and again Clementine uses her weapon of defense—candor.

Truth thus forms the motive power of the novel. It is the truth in the rebuff of the Prince that sent him away humbled, and the truth in the cut at the secretary that sent him away enraged. And the humility of the one lover and the anger of the other work out inevitable results, tho these to the reader not conversant with the Craigie psychology are most unexpected.

THE IDEALIZED COWBOY.

THE VIRGINIAN. A HORSEMAN OF THE PLAINS. By Owen Wister. Illustrations by Arthur Q. Keller. Cloth, 5¼ x 7¾ in., 504 pp. Price, $1.50. The Macmillan Company.

THE RUSTLER. A Tale of Love and War in Wyoming. By Frances McElrath. Illustrations by Edwin Willard Deming. Cloth, 5 x 7¾ in., 425 pp. Price, $1.50. Funk & Wagnalls Company.

BOTH these stories are of Wyoming, in the days when the "rustlers" and cattle-raisers were having unpleasant times with each other. The hero of each is a cowboy, an idealized cowboy, and each of the heroines is an Eastern girl, refined and beautiful, who teaches the shy cowboy to open his heart, and who, against her will, falls in love with her pupil. In one case it all ends happily, in the other tragically.

OWEN WISTER.

Mr. Wister's book shows a much more practised hand than Miss McElrath's. "The Virginians" is an elaborate character-sketch rather than a novel. The story in it is largely episodical, every stroke of the pen being designed to aid in the presentation of the central character rather than to evolve a plot. It is a most satisfying performance. One gets to know this superb cowboy to the innermost heart of him,—not simply the cowboy part of him, the part that is due to his environment; but the man himself. It is not so much a study of cowboy life as it is the study of a true man who happened to develop in a cowboy environment. Mr. Wister has that rare skill of combining the realistic and idealistic that is the secret of the success of all really great story writers. Carry journalism to its highest point and you have realism. Add idealism and you have real creative literature. Realism without idealism is better than idealism without realism; but when you find real greatness in creative literature, at least in the novel or the drama, you are sure to find both, tho the reverse may not be true. "The Virginian" is true literature, tho it will hardly do to bestow upon it the word great. In addition it abounds in humor of a most delightful quality, and to which it undoubtedly owes much of the popularity it has already achieved.

MISS FRANCES McELRATH.

Miss McElrath has given us more story, but less depth in the study of character. Her hero "Jim" does not come as close to us as the Virginian; it is the cowboy we see all the time rather than the man. The author knows her own characters, she knows the country of her story (the daughter of a New York editor, she was taken in early life to Montana at a time when that State was a typical frontier territory), and she knows how to tell a story well. "The Rustler" is her first novel and it is a promising performance. The style, the psychology, and the plot-construction are all good. It falls short, however, in not establishing the degree of intimacy between the reader and the characters that is to be desired.

THE POPULAR NOVEL OF DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY.

THE SPECKLED BIRD. By Augusta Evans Wilson. Cloth, 5 x 7½ in., 426 pp. Price, $1.50. G. W. Dillingham Company.

IF one chooses to contrast the "popular novel" of the present day with that of thirty years ago, the balance of favor lies with our modern writer. By popular novel we mean the books that caused a sensation at the time and have since then sunk into oblivion. Any one who has the patience to burrow into these extinct books will find plot walking rampant. Often half a dozen plots were interwoven in one single work, characters were allowed to stalk on to the scenes and off again regardless of whether they had anything to do with the story or not. The object of the author seems to have been to see that there was "something doing," and if that object was accomplished, construction and utility might take care of themselves.

Our writers of the present day have most of them learned a lesson of simplicity as to plot and character. Even in the historical romances most burdened with incident a certain single-mindedness of purpose has been observed; the characters too are usually essential to the story. In fact, the art of writing is, on the whole, better understood than it was in the old free days, when an author killed off characters and dragged in adventures, guided only by what his fancy prompted him to write. Every now and then, however, one of the old-fashioned class of novels makes its appearance, and is frequently hailed with rapture by a public that still hankers after the somber excitement of "East Lynne." Not that "The Speckled Bird" can be compared with "East Lynne," whose questionable plot created so much talk; it merely belongs to that school.

MRS. AUGUSTA EVANS WILSON.
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In "The Speckled Bird" the reader will find character and incident presented with a prodigality that reminds one of former times. It is a very finished work of its kind. The author understands perfectly the various emotions that hold a novel-reading audience, and has used these emotions broadcast throughout her book. The style is of that grandiloquent sort that will make the dullest perceive at once that he or she is in good company.

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It is long since we have had a hero described in such sonorous periods. As far as one may judge that baffling person, the general reader, whose character certainly "presents enigmatical phases" to the publishers who know him best, this book should find a ready welcome.

A HARVARD-OXFORD MAN.

AN AMERICAN AT OXFORD. By John Corbin. Cloth, 5 x 7⅜ in., 325 pp. Price, $1.50. Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

THE author of this work is a Harvard graduate and a student of Oxford. He writes himself down a good representative of these two premier establishments for learning. That he is an all-round one is shown by his treatment, not of education alone, but of the social life and athletics as practised (and hence instilled) at each of them. The environment, method, character, and climatic conditions of the American and English university are tersely but adequately set forth.

Perhaps the most important point discussed by him is the elective system. This is a radical feature in a university career. What Mr. Corbin has to say about its success at Harvard is not very gratifying to those who extol its merit. The strongest point he makes is that it is not really elective. The difficulties attending the ministering to the needs of students who have "staked off" certain patches of the field of knowledge as the only ones whose cultivation shall concern them may occur to a reflective mind. "So excessive are the evils of the present system," says Mr. Corbin, "that no less a man than Prof. William James has advocated the abolition of the examinations."

JOHN CORBIN.

Referring, in his preface, to the will of Cecil Rhodes, the author expresses the view that to send American students directly to Oxford from American schools "could only work harm." He denies that the educational and residental facilities at Oxford are on the whole superior to those afforded by American universities. The life-long friendships and the assimilation of the national spirit obtained by an American student at one of his own universities could not be offset, even were the advantages in the points referred to confessedly better. On the other hand, he pays a high compliment to Oxford by declaring that the methods of instruction and examining there are so different from ours that "it has even proved worth while for the American to repeat at Oxford the same studies he took in America."

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God save the State, from hidden foe within,—
The summer-passion of the swaying heart,
Mercurial and clamorous to win
The shadow-victory of camp or mart!

God save the State, for Learning's noble strife,—
To couple Kingdoms by electric breath,
To push the frontier-boundary of Life
One pillar toward the snow-demesne of Death!

God save the State, by men of ampler mind,—
The almoners of Charity and Good,
By those who orient to humankind
The sunlight of the nearing Brotherhood!

—In the *Independent*.

An Autumn Field.

By JOHN WHITE CHADWICK.

How rich and full in June's all-perfectness
Was the lush grass which, in this ample field,
Grew riotously glad! How prodigal the yield
Of every flower whose absence had made less
The bounteous whole! Now, where that sweet excess
Abounded, to itself has bareness sealed
The thriftless sods: reft, like a glorious shield
Of all its wrought and painted loveliness.

Yet not quite all; for here and there behold
A flower like those which made the summer sweet
Puts forth some meager tint of red or gold,
To make the barrenness seem more complete.
Such overflow of life, such wealth of bliss;
Now for remembrance and endurance—this!

—In September *Atlantic Monthly*.

"Who Knocks?"

By FLORENCE EARL COATES.

Who knocks at the door so late, so late—
Who knocks so late at the door?
Is it one who comes, as a stranger comes,
Or one who has knocked before?
Is it one who stays with intent to bless,
Or one who stands to implore?

"My days have been as the years," she said,
"And my heart, my heart is sore:
Love looked in my face with a wistful grace
One happy spring of yore,—
Looked in my face for a moment's space,
And left me to grieve evermore!"

Through all the days the door stood wide,
For hope had breathed a vow
That love should not be kept outside:
The years wore on, and hope hath died;
The door at last is barred and fast,—
Why comes this knocking now?

"Yet wo the waiting heart," she said,
"And the heart it waiteth for!
And wo the truth and wasted youth
That nothing shall restore!—
The faith that's fled, the hope that's dead,
The dreams that come no more!"

Who knocks at the gate—so late, so late?
Thou foolish heart, be still!
What is't to thee if love or hate
Knocks in the midnight chill?
Art thou, poor heart, compassionate?
Is love so hard to kill?

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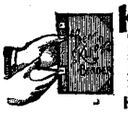

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"Ah me! the night is cold," she said;
"Would I might all forget;
But memory lives when hope is dead,
And pity heals regret;
As light still lingers overhead
When sun and moon are set."

—In September *Lippincott's*.

Bret Harte's Last Poem.

[In *Harper's Magazine* for October is printed for the first time the following poem written by Mr. Harte about the time of Queen Victoria's death.]

When your men bowed heads together
With hushed lips,
And the globe swung out from gladness
To eclipse,

When your drums from the equator
To the pole
Carried round it an unending
Funeral roll,

When your capitals from Norway
To the Cape
Through their streets and from their houses
Trailed their crape,

Still the sun awoke to gladness
As of old,
And the stars their midnight beauty
Still unrolled,

For the glory born of Goodness
Never dies,
And its flag is not half-masted
In the skies.

The Ravens.

By JOSEPHINE PRESTON PEABODY.

My eyes are blind with dust,
My limbs are dull with pain;
But my body must up and after me,
Again—again—again.

They hover and wheel above;
Where I creep on, they fly,
And with their raucous vaunt of life
They tempt my soul to die.

For the numbness of my heart
And the length I have to go,
The dimness of my starving sight
They know—they know—they know.

But the little spark I hold
Shall light me farther on,
After that gleam like a far-off stream,
Until that too is gone.

Mirage, mirage, mirage!
But I say, I will not die
For the hoarse despairs that wait and poise,
And I creep while they do fly.

No wonder they stoop so low;
No wonder they should scoff
With—Ah and Ah! and beak and claw,
As they let me beat them off.

For there is no path to see;
But after the vanished flag
My soul must go, and after me,
My body strive and lag.

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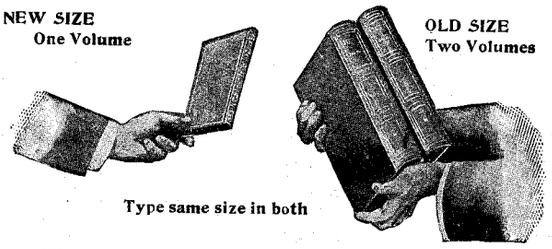

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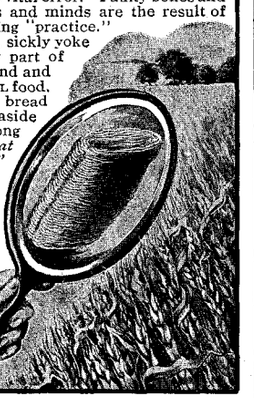

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Whither my face is set,
They would have us dead, but I have said
Not yet—not yet—not yet!

In September *Scribner's Magazine.*

To William Watson on His Coronation Ode.

By RICHARD WATSON GILDER.

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More real than real things,
In this proud pageant of Imperial verse
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—London *Times* Literary Supplement.

PERSONALS.

Blaine's Fear of Horses.—The recent trolley accident at Pittsfield, Mass., in which the President narrowly escaped death, leads the Brooklyn *Eagle* to print an amusing incident about James G. Blaine, which was recently related by Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Taylor. Mr. Taylor said:

"Had James G. Blaine been alive and a member of President Roosevelt's party at Pittsfield last week, the disaster by which Craig lost his life would not have occurred. I don't think I ever met any one who was in such mortal fear of being in a runaway as was the brilliant Maine statesman. He would take absolutely no risks with horses, and required the most extreme precautions to be observed before he would submit himself to a carriage ride. I remember many years ago that Mr. Blaine was to visit our city of Milwaukee, and I was in charge of the arrangements for his reception and entertainment. One of the prominent liverymen of the town came to me and offered free of charge the services of a magnificent team of six white horses to draw the carriage of Mr. Blaine. I accepted the offer, and when the statesman arrived at the depot I escorted him to the street where the team and carriage were waiting. I was about to hand Mr. Blaine into the vehicle when he suddenly drew back. 'There is no one at the head of those horses,' he said, 'and I would prefer that you get some men to guard them before we proceed.' I told the driver what he said, and the latter insisted that he had absolute control over his animals; that they were used to bands and other noises, and that there was not the slightest danger. I repeated this to Mr. Blaine, and told him that I thought he could safely take a seat. But he wouldn't do it. 'I shall not put my foot into the carriage,' he said firmly, 'until a man is put at the head of each horse and is made to stay there.' That ended it, and we hurried around and got half a dozen men together and had each hook on to a bridle. Then Mr. Blaine got into the carriage and we proceeded uptown."

Schley's Strategy with Monkeys.—The following anecdote, told by a former messmate of Admiral Schley when the latter was a midshipman, is taken from the Baltimore *News:*

Schley's vessel had made a cruise to the tropics, and while there the officers had captured two small ring-tailed monkeys, and had taken them aboard the ship as mascots.

When the mascots had acquired their "sea legs" and a working knowledge of the ship, they set about to make the lives of the officers and men as miserable as they could—and, being monkeys, they succeeded very well. Daily their victims

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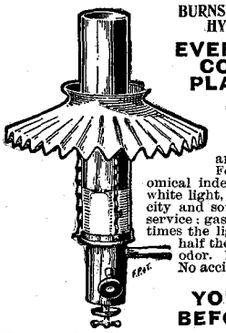

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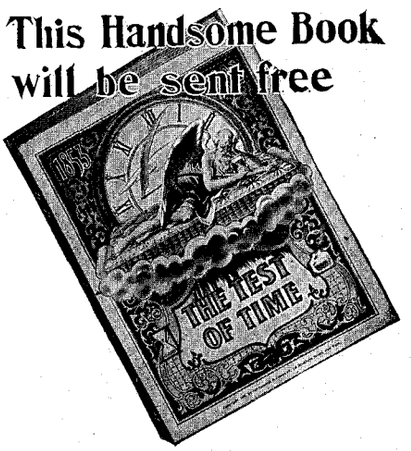

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would be incensed to find that the simians had paid them a most unappreciated visit, and had either hidden or thrown overboard some of their belongings.

At length the officers determined that they would stand it no longer. A council of war was held, during which the monkeys threw several things to Davy Jones, and ways and means of ridding the ship of the little pests were discussed. Altho the meeting was a unit that the monkeys should be disposed of, none of the gentlemen wanted to be constituted executioner, and the council was adjourned without arriving at a decision.

When Midshipman Schley went on deck next morning, after having been visited the preceding night by the monkeys, his eye fell upon a bucket of grease. He immediately began to associate the grease with the monkeys, and the upshot of his ponderings was told by the officer as follows:

"Schley lured the monkeys to him with something to eat, and when he got his hands on them greased their tails with the mess in the bucket. The monkeys seemed rather to enjoy the thing, and when Schley got through with his task they began to chase each other about the deck, as they had a habit of doing. Finally they ran up a rope and got out on a spar, where they proceeded to indulge in gymnastics which ultimately proved fatal, for as they wrapped their tails about the spar and swung free of the ropes they promptly slipped overboard and were lost."

One of Archbishop Farley's Admirers.—At a dinner given to the very Rev. Dean Liags in Yonkers recently, Archbishop-elect John M. Farley related the following incident, which is published in the New York *Times*:

"It was shortly after I had been made Vicar General or Monsignor—I do not remember which—when an aged Irishwoman encountered me on the street. She was a good old soul and had been a member of our parish church for years. Grasping me by the hand she remarked:

"'Oh, father, and sure the Lord bless you; I hear they gave you a rise.'

"I replied that her information was correct.

"'Well,' she responded, 'an' I'm pleased for that; it's yourself that deserves the rise.'

"I thanked the good woman sincerely and was about to leave her, when, still holding my hand, she remarked:

"'And all I hope is that the next rise they give you will be to heaven.'"

A Curious Story about Empress Eugenie.—The projected memoirs of the Empress Eugenie will probably not contain the following anecdote, which is related by M. Bruno in the Paris *Journal*:

It was in one of the last years of the Third Empire, just after the close of the 1867 exposition. The foreign sovereigns who had visited Paris had made, to the imperial couple, demonstrations of friendship, the hollowness of which was soon disclosed by events. The air was filled with rumors of a general upheaval in the politics of Europe. King William of Prussia had come "as a friend"

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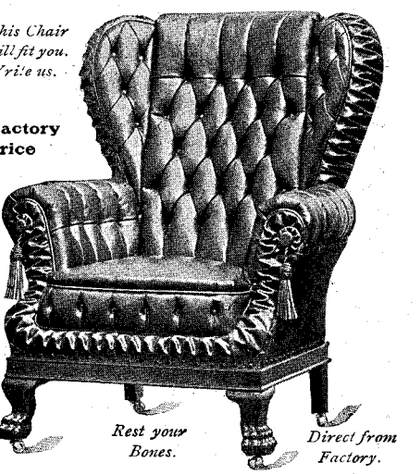

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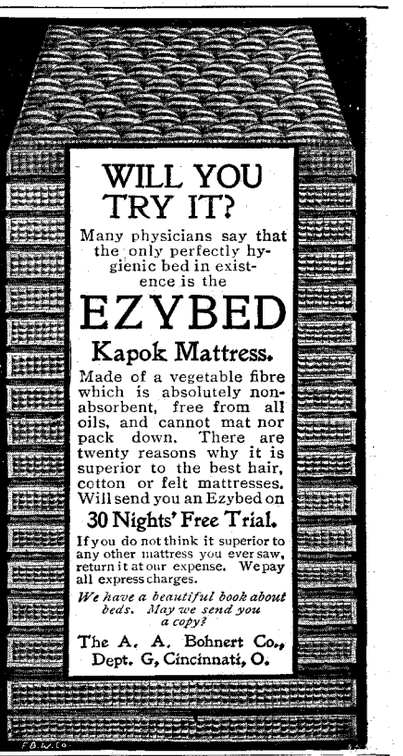

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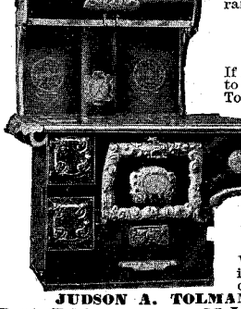

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to visit—and reconnoitre—the city, the siege of which he was already contemplating. The internal situation was no less grave. Extremists of all sorts were making themselves heard, and the republicans were beginning to raise their heads again.

Napoleon III., already suffering with the malady which ended his life, was weak and vacillating. Italy was resolved upon the occupation of Rome, then under Papal dominion supported by the French troops. One faction in the Government was in favor of the withdrawal of these troops, but the Empress, a Spaniard and a devout Catholic, insisted that they should be maintained.

One day Napoleon summoned his cabinet to discuss this question, and, in order to escape from the influence of Eugenie, who usually was present at cabinet meetings, he gave orders that she should not be informed of the event. But Eugenie heard of both the meeting and the Emperor's order, and as might have been expected from her haughty and imperious character she flew into a violent passion. She went at once to the council chamber and demanded entrance, but the guard, in obedience to the Emperor's order, refused to admit her.

"I *will* enter! Stand aside!" she exclaimed, furiously.

At that epoch Eugenie was young and remarkably beautiful, and the poor guardsman was almost overawed by the combined majesty of authority and beauty. He fell on his knees, but kept his bayonet across the doorway.

"Your Majesty, no one may enter, by the Emperor's command."

"We shall see," cried Eugenie, and springing over the bayonet she burst open the door and entered the room like a whirlwind. She went straight to the Emperor, who sat at the head of the table in his usual impassive attitude with his eyes half closed. He wore a hat, all the others were uncovered. With a quick backward sweep of her arm Eugenie knocked off the Emperor's hat and rushed out as she had rushed in, leaving the ministers speechless with astonishment.

The Empress, after this exploit, repaired to her apartments, made a hasty toilet, and went off in a cab with one of her ladies, like a little *bourgeois* fleeing from the conjugal roof after a quarrel with her husband.

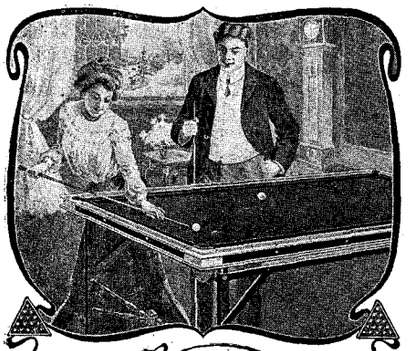
On the following day she was in England. The news of her flight filled the Emperor with consternation. What would people say? To account for this sudden departure he had recourse to an expedient worthy of a romance writer.

The British ambassador was informed that the Empress was going to visit her great and good friend, Queen Victoria, and on the following day a lady resembling Eugenie in figure, closely veiled, ostentatiously entered a court carriage and was driven, in great state, to the Northern Railway terminus. It was one of Eugenie's ladies-in-waiting.

Meanwhile a diplomatic agent had been sent to the real Eugenie, to warn her of the possible consequences of her folly. And Queen Victoria, who had learned the cause of Eugenie's visit, and whose English ideas of decorum were shocked thereby, received her with extreme coolness.

The result of the whole affair was that Eugenie, seeing that she cut but a sorry figure at the English court, returned in a very contrite spirit to the Tuileries.

Three years later she fled again, but this time she did not come back.—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.



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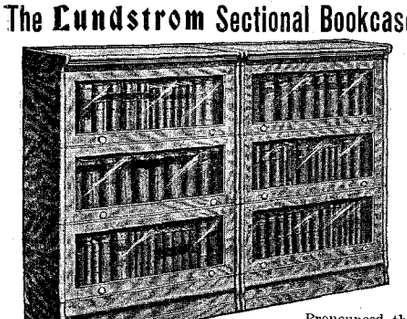

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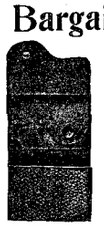

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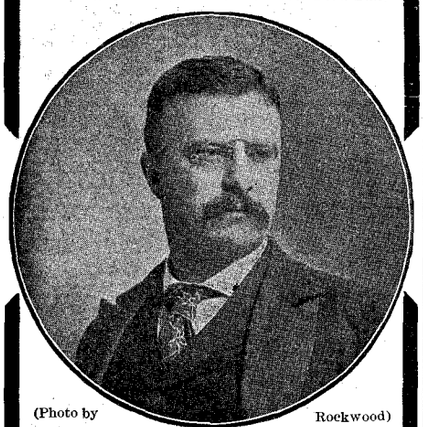

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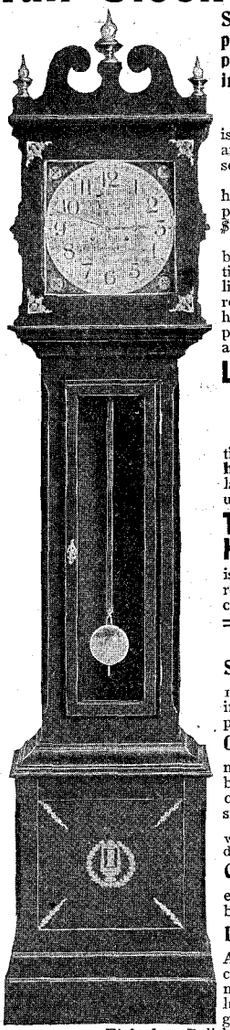

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Size Height, 7½ feet. Depth, 11 inches. Width, 19 inches. Weight, 150 pounds.

Ornaments Etruscan ornaments, solid cast brass, polished. Top ornaments, brass and silver. Can be furnished without ornaments if desired.

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Dial 12½ inches square, black Arabic figures on cream ground, corners rich crimson, illuminated by neat gold scrolls.

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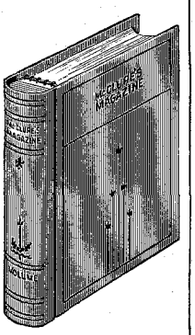

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THE SONNET CONTEST.

[A prize of a steel engraving of George Washington was offered for the best sonnet built on rimes to the names Battromie Szlizexc and Waroniki Kizayteza, who had been licensed to wed at Danville, Ill.]

O Battromie, no doubt you think me cheeky.
But I were no true man did I not seize a
Good chance like this to tickle and to please a
Sweet person as is darling Waroniki.
Let others sing "O' Lasses o' 'Auld Reekie.'"
I sing of Danville's fairest maid, for she's a
Peach, be she Szlizexc, be she Kizayteza—
I sing her praises in a sonnet squeaky.

I hereby tender my congratulations
To both of you, dear Mr. and dear Mrs.,
But tho I send my true felicitations,
A question's in my mind to-night and this is:
By all the shades of Polanders most shady!
Which is the Gentleman and which the Lady?

—BERT LESTON TAYLOR.

A Case of Schurz or Blouse.—Minister Wu, who is soon to return to China, has had many unique experiences in this country. The following incident is taken from *The Saturday Evening Post* (Philadelphia):

On one occasion he and Carl Schurz were both to make addresses before a university audience. Schurz had spoken to the students before, and when they saw him on the platform they called out, "Schurz!" "Schurz!"

The Chinese Minister, conscious that his silken blouse, worn outside his trousers, might have awakened what he knew to be the easily provoked irreverence of undergraduates, mistook the salutation for "shirts." Whereupon he rose, bowed, and smilingly adjusted his robes, displaying the evident comfort he enjoyed in wearing them.

Now the students took up the cry in earnest, and "Schurz" readily became "shirts." The uproar of their merriment rang lustily throughout the auditorium.

Even the bland and philosophic Minister Wu began to display embarrassment.

"Don't pay any attention to them," whispered Mr. Schurz; "they mean me."

"Oh, is that all?" exclaimed the Chinese Minister, and sank back into his chair, vastly relieved.

Coming Events.

October 8-10.—National Encampment of the Union Veterans' Union at Washington.

October 11-14.—Convention of the National Local Preachers' Association at Philadelphia.

Convention of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society at Austin, Minn.

October 13.—Convention of the National Laundrymen's Association at Washington.

Convention of the Coopers' International Union of North America at Louisville, Ky.

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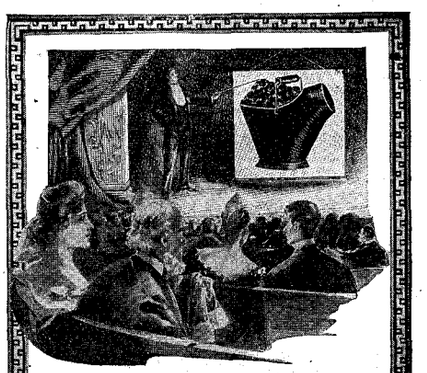

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October 13-18.—National Horseshoers' Convention at Philadelphia.

October 14.—Convention of the National Bottlers' Association at Norfolk, Va.

Convention of the American General Passenger and Ticket Agents' Association at Portland, Me.

Convention of the International Brotherhood of Oil and Gas Well Workers at Bowling Green, Ohio.

October 15-17.—Convention of the American Humane Association at Albany, N. Y.

October 15-23.—Convention of the Disciples of Christ at Omaha, Nebr.

The Christian Church National Convention at Omaha, Nebr.

Current Events.

Foreign.

SOUTH AMERICA.

September 22.—The *Panther* arrives at Colon with a battalion of marines.

Commander McLean reports that he had disarmed Colombian troops before permitting them to cross the isthmus.

September 24.—The Venezuelan gunboat *Restaurador* displays the American flag, enabling it to get close to the town of Ciudad Bolivar, on the Orinoco, and bombard it; an apology for the act is made by the Venezuelan Government.

OTHER FOREIGN NEWS.

September 22.—It is announced in London that diplomatic relations between Venezuela and Great Britain might be severed at any moment, the trouble being over the ownership of Patos Island.

General Botha announces that Henry Phipps, an American, had contributed $100,000 to the Boer relief fund.

September 23.—The Congregational Union of Great Britain, assembled at Glasgow, condemns the British Government's Education bill.

September 24.—The German Government and the Reichstag majority reach a deadlock on the tariff, and the prospects for the passage of the bill are considered poor.

September 25.—M. de Witte, the Russian Minister of Finance, starts for Manchuria.

The International Committee to secure uniform maritime laws meets at Brussels.

Johannes Orth is appointed to succeed Professor Virchow in the chair of pathological anatomy in the University of Berlin.

September 26.—Recent earthquakes in Turkestan kill nearly seven hundred persons and injure one thousand.

September 27.—The tobacco war in England is ended by the amalgamation of the American and British interests in a joint company un-

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der the name of the British-American Tobacco Company, Limited.

Sir Michael Herbert, the new British Ambassador at Washington, and Lady Herbert, sail from Liverpool for America.

eptember 28.—Captain Sverdrup, the Arctic explorer, arrives at Christiania in his ship, the *Fram*.

Domestic.

eptember 22.—President Palma requests this Government to withdraw the artillery companies now stationed on the island.

President Roosevelt speaks on "Reciprocity with Cuba" at the dinner given for him by Spanish War veterans holding their convention in Detroit.

eptember 23.—President Roosevelt is compelled to abandon the remainder of his trip to the Northwest, and submit to a slight surgical operation in Indianapolis, an abscess on his leg having resulted from the recent accident at Pittsfield, Mass.

Troops are ordered to Lebanon, Pa., to quell the violence which had broken out among the iron and steel workers on strike there; the force of troops in the coal-strike region is increased.

September 24.—The cruiser *San Francisco* sails to Panama to protect American interests.

Rioting in the anthracite region continues and increases.

Bishop Potter preaches on temperance before the Episcopal Diocesan Convention at New York.

Governor Odell is nominated for governor of New York by the Republicans of New York, and Frank W. Higgins is named for lieutenant-governor; the platform indorses President Roosevelt.

September 25.—Charlemagne Tower, United States Ambassador to Russia, is selected to succeed Andrew D. White as Ambassador to Germany.

The Connecticut Democrats nominate a full state ticket, and refuse to indorse the Kansas City platform.

September 26.—General Funston, in his annual report on affairs in the Department of Colorado, says the abolition of the canteen has had a deplorable effect on the army.

September 27.—Officers of the coal operators, with the representatives of the civil and military authorities, meet in Wilkesbarre to arrange for the resumption of mining under the protection of the soldiers.

September 28.—A second operation is performed on the President's leg.

President Mitchell issues a statement in reply to those of President Baer and ex-Mayor Abram S. Hewitt.

AMERICAN DEPENDENCIES.

September 22.—Capt. John J. Pershing, operating against the Moros in the Island of Mindanao, has met slight resistance and has captured seven forts, killed twenty-five and wounded twenty Moros; there are no American casualties.

September 28.—A second expedition under command of Captain Pershing leaves Camp Vicars, island of Mindanao, to attack the Moro position at Macin.

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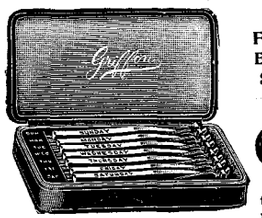
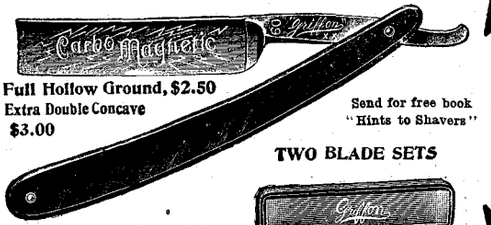


Six black handle and one ivory handle for Sunday, $22.50.



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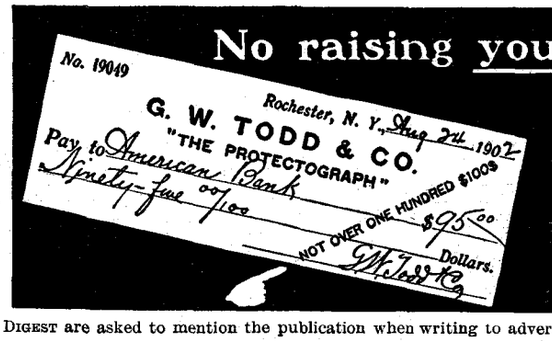

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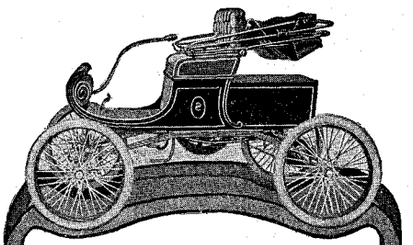

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LIII. MOTTO: "List geht über Gewalt."

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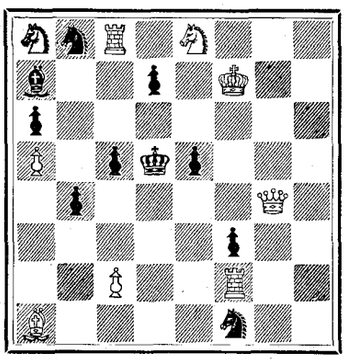


White—Nine Pieces.

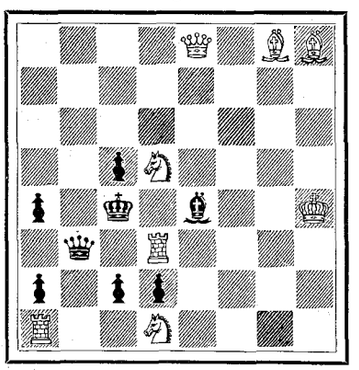
S s R 1 S 3; b 2 p 1 K 2; p 7; P 1 p k p 3; 1 p 4 Q 1; 5 p 2; 2 P 2 R 2; B 4 S 2.

White mates in two moves.

Problem 736.

LIV. MOTTO: "Hélène."

Black—Eight Pieces.



White—Eight Pieces.

4 Q 1 B B; 8; 8; 2 p S 4; p 1 k 1 r b 2 K; 1 q 1 R 4; p 1 p p 4; R 2 S 4.

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and economy.

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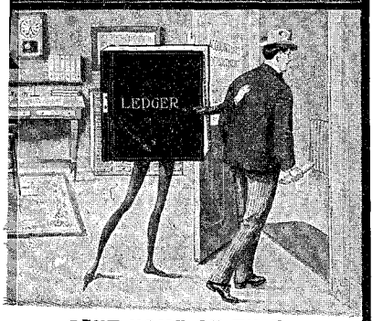

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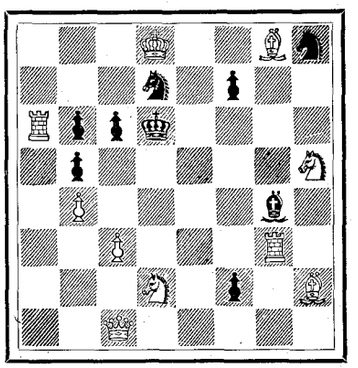
Problem 73

LV. MOTTO: "Scylla and Charybdis."

Black—Nine Pieces.



White—Ten Pieces.

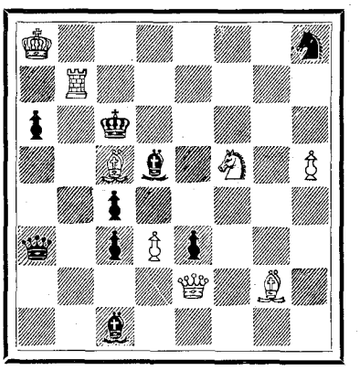
3 K 2 B s; 3 S 1 p 2; R p p k 4; 1 p 5 S; 1 P 4 b 1; 2 P 3 R 1; 3 S 1 p 1 B; 2 Q 5.

White mates in three moves.

Problem 738.

LVI. MOTTO: "The Queens."

Black—Nine Pieces.



White—Eight Pieces.

K 6 s; 1 R 6; p 1 k 5; 2 B b 1 S 1 P; 2 p 5; q 1 p P p 3; 4 Q 1 B 1; 2 b 5.

White mates in three moves.

Solution of Tourney Problems.

No. 723. XLI.: Q—Kt 4.

No. 724. XLII.: Kt—B 7.

No. 725. XLIII.

1. Kt—K 2 / ——— / K x R	2. Q—Q 8 ch / ——— / K—B 4	3. Kt—R 4, mate
1. ..... / ——— / R x R	2. Kt—K 4 ch / ——— / K—Q 4	3. Q—R sq, mate
1. ..... / ——— / P x R	2. Kt—R 4 ch / ——— / K—Q 4	3. Q—Q R 8, mate
1. ..... / ——— / Kt x Q	2. R—B 6 ch / ——— / K—Q 4	3. Kt—K B 4, mate

Other variations depend on those given.

No. 726. XLIV.

1. R—B 4 / ——— / P x R	2. Q—R 6 / ——— / Any	3. Q mates
1. ..... / ——— / P—B 5	2. Q—R sq / ——— / Any	3. Q—R 5, mate
1. ..... / ——— / B—Q 6	2. Q x B ch / ——— / P x Q	3. P—B 4, mate

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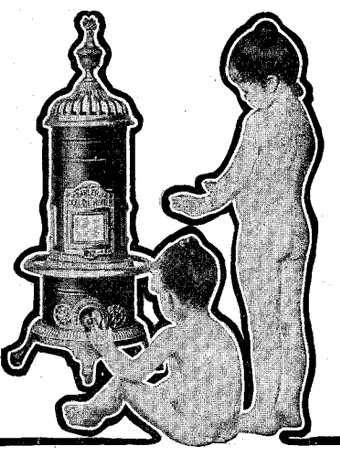

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1. ..... P x P — 2. R x P, K x R — 3. Q—B 3, mate

2. ..... B x R — 3. Q—B 7, mate

Solved by M. W. H., University of Virginia; the Rev. I. W. B., Bethlehem, Pa.; M. Marble, Worcester, Mass.; the Rev. G. Dobbs, New Orleans; F. S. Ferguson, Birmingham, Ala.; H. W. Barry, Boston; A. C. White, New York City; K. Kentino, Newark, N. J.; J. C. J. Wainwright, Somerville, Mass.; W. J. Ferris, Chester, Pa.; F. Gamage, Westboro, Mass.; T. Hilgers, Union Hill, N. J.; the Hon. Tom M. Taylor, Franklin, Tex.; J. J. Burke, Philadelphia; "Malvern," Melrose, Mass.; O. C. Pitkin, Syracuse, N. Y.; C. B. E., Youngstown, O.; A. G. Massmann, Newark, N. J.; B. Colle, New York City; H. A. S. Denver, Col.; G. Patterson, Winnipeg, Can.; W. W. S., Randolph-Macon System, Lynchburg, Va.

723: W. R. Coumbe, Lakeland, Fla.; E. A. Kusel, Oroville, Cal.

724, 724: "Twenty-three," Philadelphia; the Rev. S. M. Morton, D.D., Effingham, Ill.

724: Dr. T. B. Turnbaugh, Bloomfield, Mo.

724, 725: R. H. Renshaw, University of Virginia.

725: Dr. H. Sleeper, Meriden, N. H.

723, 724, 726: O. C. Brett, Humboldt, Kan.

Comments (723): "Has many good features"—M. M.; "Its faults are few; its merits numerous" F. S. F.; "The Q B's mates are entirely foreign to the main theme"—H. W. B.; "Fairly good"—A. C. W.; "Clever"—K. K.; "Fine management of black R on B 5"—J. C. J. W.; "Key brilliant and novel"—F. G.; "Faultless construction; but apparent key"—B. C.; "Beautiful"—W. R. C.

724: "Fine"—M. M.; "Pretty good"—G. D.; "Has better key than 723; but not superior in other respects"—F. S. F.; "A dainty lightweight"—A. C. W.; "A light and elegant morceau"—J. C. J. W.; "Fine illustrations of antiquated theme"—F. G.; "The solution requires a strong 'will,' and then the 'way' is difficult"—S. M. M.

725: "Fine key"—M. M.; "Difficult"—G. D.; "Elegant"—F. S. F.; "Good, deep, 'meaty.' Its faults are 'thematic duals"—H. W. B.; "Excellent. Should not be far beneath the winners"—A. C. W.; "Poorly constructed and bristles with duals"—K. K.; "Subtle as to key, and deeply involved in the after-play"—J. C. J. W.; "A fair end-game"—F. G.; "In the front rank"—M.; "Key bold, variations intricate"—O. C. P.

726: "A fine conception"—M. M.; "Very deception and very ingenious"—G. D.; "Excellent in all respects"—F. S. F.; "Surprising combinations of extreme economy, with brilliancy, beauty, and variety"—H. W. B.; "Rather too light for a tourney"—A. C. W.; "The construction is faulty"—K. K; "Good key, clever and novel action"—J. C. J. W.; "Fine and original"—F. G.; "A gem"—B. C.

In addition to those reported, B. C., Dr. R. O'C., San Francisco, C. N. F., Rome, Ga., got 719-722; W. W. S., 722; R. H. R., 721; Dr. H. W. Fannin, Hackett, Ark., 719, 720; B. M. N., Eastern, Penn., 718; the Rev. J. K. Thompson, Muskogee, I. T., 715, 716, 719, 720.

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1	P—K 4	P—K 4	17	B x R	Q x B
2	P—Q 4	P x P (a)	18	Kt x B	Q x P ch
3	P—Q B 3	P x P	19	Kt—K 2	B—R 3
4	B—Q B 4	P x P (b)	20	Castles Q R (f)	B x Kt
5	B x Q Kt P	P—Q 3	21	R—Q 4	Q x P
6	Q—Q 3	Q—Q 2	22	R—K sq	R x Kt
7	Q Kt—B 3	Q Kt—B 3	23	R x B	P—Q 4
8	Kt—Q 5	Kt—R 4	24	Q—K 3	Kt—B 5
9	Q—K Kt 3	P—K B 3 (c)	25	Q—K 6 ch	Kt—B 2 (g)
10	B—K 2	P—Q B 3	26	R—Kt 4	Q—B 8 ch
11	Kt—B 4	Kt—R 3	27	R—K sq	Q x B P
12	Q—Q B 3	P—Q Kt 3	28	R—K 2	Q—B 8 ch
13	Kt—B 3	B—K 2	29	R—K sq	Q—B 7
14	Kt—Q 4	Castles	30	R—K 2	Q—Q B 4 (h)
15	K Kt—K 6 (d)	R—K sq	White mates in four moves.		
16	B—R 5	B—B sq (e)			

Comments by Reichelm in The North American, Philadelphia.

(a) Q—K2 is the simple move to meet this method of play.

(b) This wholesale capturing is risky.

(c) One of the tricks that Mieses had studied out follows on Kt x B,, on which B x Kt P wins the exchange.

(d) Meaning the Knight from Queen's fourth.

(e) This is best. On P—Kt 3, Q—K Kt 3.

(f) The high style.

(g) Gives Mieses the chance he is looking for. K—R sq was better.

(h) Should have hung on to the Draw. Through the move made Mieses is enabled to execute the brilliant maneuver he had been working for.

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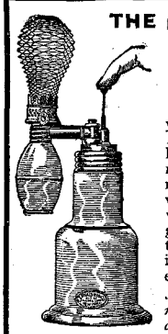

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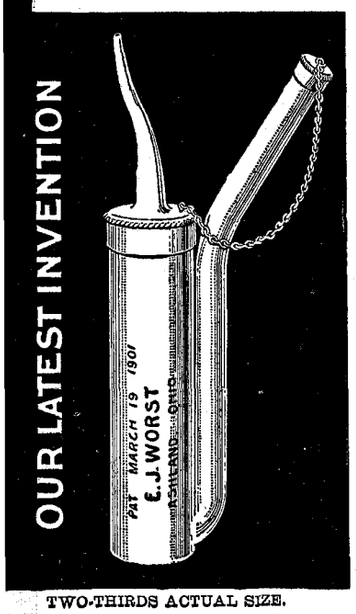

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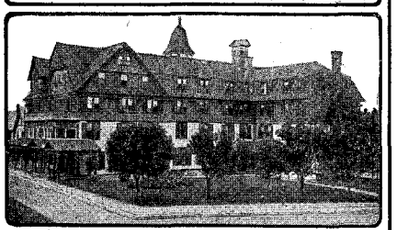

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